

Gc
929.2
T2561w
1851852

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01433 6157

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
ROLLIN Q. TENNEY

By
George W. [unclear]

[1918]

1851852



R. S. Emery

117.00 - P.O. 2753 - 1. 42-75 - Little

FOREWORD.

Macauley, the noted English historian, is quoted as saying that "the history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." This being true, the subject of the appended sketch, Rollin Q. Tenney, has been of marked assistance in shaping the material, intellectual, and moral history of Fort Collins, the home of his adoption. He has done this through his energy and activity, through his progressive ideas and spirit, through the service he has rendered the public and through the example set before his fellowmen as a loyal, honorable and upright citizen, therefore, no apology is offered in presenting this biographical sketch of a worthy man and estimable citizen.

ANSEL WATROUS, Biographer.

Fort Collins, Colo., August, 1918.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF ROLLIN Q. TENNEY.

Rollin Quartus Tenney has been a conspicuous figure in Larimer County's civic and industrial life for nearly half a century. A veteran of the Civil War, an adjutant of the George H. Thomas Post of the Grand Army of the Republic for more than twenty-five years, Mr. Tenney has been a remarkable man with a remarkable history. He came from most sturdy stock, inheriting a vigorous constitution and a clean mind. Large of brain and heart, he has accomplished much where much was to accomplish. Unflinching and determined of purpose, aggressive in spirit, fearless in defense in what he believed to be right, has made him a prominent figure in Larimer County and in Colorado.

It is said that he who makes two blades of grass grow where one grew before, is a public benefactor. This, by common consent, is admitted to be a truism. Mr. Tenney, therefore, is a public benefactor. He believes in progress, and all the years of his manhood have been devoted to advancing the material interests and welfare of the community in which he lived, and in improving surrounding conditions. In these activities he has been a leader where others have followed. No one will deny that the results of his skill, energy and activities have been of great benefit to Larimer County, industrially, commercially and morally. To him stagnation is unendurable. He wants to see things moving in the right direction and has always done his best to start them right and keep them going.

Herewith follows a synopsis of his career to date:

Direct descendant of Thomas Tenney, who came from Rowley, Yorkshire County, England, to Salem, Massachusetts, in December, 1638, and settled in Rowley in 1639. His maternal ancestors have been traced back to Somerset County, England, to the time of King Edward III, in 1346. Henry Bullman was the progenitor and for valor-

ous services rendered the Crown, he was knighted and given Miner for a surname.

From the family of Thomas Tenney, four boys and two girls, have descended the numerous members of the Tenney family. The subject of this sketch was born March 14, 1838, in Lebanon, New Hampshire. His early boyhood was passed on a farm. In 1856, he entered the employ of the Vermont Central Railroad, as an apprentice in the machine shops at Northfield, where he spent nearly 6 years. In August, 1862, he enlisted in Company C of the 15th Vermont volunteer infantry, and was promoted before leaving the state; was mustered into the United States service at Brattleboro, Vermont, as Commissary Sergeant of the regiment. After his term of enlistment, he entered the service as a civilian employee in the Quartermaster's Department and spent the winter and spring of 1864-65 at City Point; was with the headquarters of the 6th Corps when Lee surrendered at Appomattoz April 9, 1865. He was then transferred in June, 1865, to the Rio Grande at Brownsville, Texas; was chief clerk at the depot in Brownsville until May, 1866, when he returned to his home, having done his part in helping put an end to Maximilian's invasion of Mexico.

In August, 1866, Mr. Tenney had an attack of Western fever, and to break it up, came to Chariton, Iowa, where he remained until December, 1868, when he removed to Dixon, Ill. The lure of the West had cast its spell over him, and in June, 1871, we find him settled down upon an 80-acre farm in Cache la Poudre Valley, two miles west of Fort Collins. Here he began to work out and solve some of the progressive plans that had been galloping thru his fertile brain for years. He wanted something better than the long horn Texas cattle that roamed the plains, so ordered from the East a Jersey bull and heifer, with which to form the nucleus of a breed of dairy cattle, and those two animals were the first of that breed of cattle brought into Colorado. Then he ordered from New York four dozen 4-gallon cans for milk setting,

which were also the first brought into the territory. After getting together a herd of the best cows he could pick up here and there, Mr. Tenney established the "Victor Dairy." This was in 1872. The butter was packed in 4-pound packages, which were labelled "Victor Dairy, Fort Collins, Colorado, R. Q. Tenney, Proprietor." So far as was then known, that was the first dairy established in Colorado. While engaged in dairying from 1872-76, Mr. Tenney sent to New York for a quantity of sugar beet seed which he planted and harvested, feeding the beets to the dairy cows. The yield of beets was 1,200 bushels, or at the rate of more than 40 tons to the acre. This was the first time that sugar beets had been grown in Colorado, and Mr. Tenney's experience had much to do with the establishment of the beet sugar industry, now worth millions of dollars to the state.

The grange movement had gained a foothold in Colorado, and being ever ready to help along any movement that promised to better the condition of the farmer, Mr. Tenney organized Grange No. 7, instituted November 9, 1873, and was elected its first Master. When the State Grange was organized he was made its first Master, and he and Mrs. Tenney represented Colorado in the National Grange in St. Louis, Louisville, Kentucky, and Charleston, South Carolina

In the spring of 1876, Mr. Tenney moved to what is known as the "Inverness Farm." At the State Fair held that fall he won premiums on the best team of mares for all purposes, and on some grains. He bought, and used for three years, the first gang-plow brought into Colorado, and then bought a sulky-plow, the first used in this vicinity. In company with John G. Coy and Peter Anderson he bought a seed drill. Later he purchased a self-binder, which was the first self-binder brought into the county so that he was the first man to introduce and employ modern methods of farming, and to use labor-saving farm machinery in Larimer County.

From the first Mr. Tenney took a great interest in the subject of irrigation, and in company with

the late Jack Dow, former County Surveyor, made the first survey for the North Poudre system, which has since become one of the most important irrigation plants in Colorado, and in the summer of 1877, or 1878, he made the first preliminary survey of Terry Lake, now known as the Larimer and Weld Reservoir. He, and his brother, Melvin, extended the Jackson Ditch a distance of three miles, thru which water was run into Long Pond; completed the Richards Reservoir, which was the first in priority, excepting the Warren Lake Reservoir, in the Cache la Poudre Valley. He developed the Sand Creek Irrigation Supply system, and with the aid of former Governor B. H. Eaton, built a ditch thru which water is drawn from Sand Creek to supplement the supply of the North Poudre Canal. He undertook the project of bringing the Laramie river water on to the plains in the northern part of Larimer County, via the Lone Tree route, but for the lack of enterprise and courage of his associates, the project was abandoned. Had it been carried thru to completion, it would have been the crowning effort in the reclamation of northern Larimer County. We will let Mr. Tenny tell this story in his own language.

"This irrigation project is worthy of some note. Leaving home about March 9 with Wallis Link, Dwight Mandeville, Robert B. Lowman and Walter Buchanan as a party, we proceeded via Virginia Dale, Tie Siding and the Sand Creek Pass to the head waters of the Laramie river. When it is known that March is as good as the dead of winter in that altitude, one can comprehend conditions that we were up against. We had to start on wheels, but when we reached the Laramie plains we wished we had runners. We finally landed in George Lanning's cabin near what was to be the west end of the tunnel. We spent the 14th of March in the cabin playing old sledge, while the flakes of snow as big as a water pail were coming down in graceful and artistic manner. A note in our record book reads thus: This is the 66th anniversary of the birth of the subscriber, March 14, 1904, which we

celebrate as you see in the cabin of George Lanning near the common corners of Secs. 6 and 7 of T 8 N, R 75 W, and 1 and 12 of 76 W 6 P. M.

The storm finally cleared after 24 hours and we took up the work of leveling over the mountains in the direction of the Poudre river. The elevation of the summit from the Laramie river, on the west side of the hill, is 989.5 feet. The length of the tunnel through the hill is 11,700 feet or two miles and 1,140 feet. The construction of this project was afterwards taken up and to-day the watersheds of the Laramie and Poudre are wedded forever.

After 11 days on the ground, we returned to our homes in safety after digging ourselves out of the snow on several occasions. Credit is due Mr. Link for his care, foresight and persistence, which qualities he had acquired by long years of experience as a frontiersman. The result of the trip formed the basis of one of the most far-reaching enterprises in Northern Colorado. The credit for this enterprise is due to the Akin brothers, viz: A. I. and M. H. Akin.

Mr. Tenney took an active part in organizing and putting the Farmers' Alliance on its feet in Colorado. He represented Larimer County in the state meeting in Pueblo. At this time the organization had reached a stage of some moment, and its influence was being felt thruout the state. Mr. Tenney was its second president.

In 1883, in company with his brother Melvin, Mr. Tenney developed a large stock ranch in the Boxelder Valley, and they engaged in the stock business, their holdings amounting to about 500 head of cattle and horses. In 1890 Mr. Tenney moved his family to Fort Collins, and this city has since been his home. During the years 1893 and 1894, Mr. Tenney served as Water Commissioner in water district No. 3, division No. 1, as the appointee of Governor Davis H. Waite, and made a record for faithfulness and efficiency that has never been excelled. He is a strict constructionist, and obeyed the law to the letter, which in a few in-

stances stroked the fur the wrong way, but he had the law back of him and he did not worry. He put water on and reclaimed five quarter sections into valuable farming land.

Mr. Tenney was made a Master Mason June 25, 1866, in Franklin Lodge, No. 6 of Lebanon, New Hampshire, and still retains his membership in that lodge. Franklin No. 6 was instituted in 1796. He became a member of the G. A. R. June 22, 1867, in Chariton, Iowa. He has been Adjutant of Geo. H. Thomas Post 7, G. A. R., Fort Collins, for twenty-five years. He was president of the school board in 1874 and employed ex-State Senator L. R. Rhodes to teach the school that year. He is an honorary member of the State Forestry association, and an ex-President of the Fort Collins Pioneer association. When a lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen was instituted in Fort Collins, Mr. Tenney was its first Master, and was an active member of the order for 27 years. He kept a weather record for the Smithsonian Institution from 1871 until the Agricultural College took up the work in 1881.

The inception of the Laramie plains scheme should be credited to J. C. Ulrich who was the civil engineer for the Travelers Insurance Company in the early eighties. It was Mr. Ulrich who made the first preliminary survey and demonstrated the feasibility of bringing the water of the Laramie river from a point near Glendevy to the summit. at the head of Fish Creek and thereby into the north fork of the Poudre. While Mr. Ulrich demonstrated the feasibility of the scheme, the insurance company set down on it with an emphasis that was final. Their desire for irrigation schemes was nil if it called for an additional outlay of money, and nothing was ever done with it until Mr. Tenney in 1904 took it up with some of the progressive men of Fort Collins.

When the Larimer County Development Company was born with Lewis Clark Moore, A. A. Edwards, R. Q. Tenney and T. H. Davy as the moving spirits, the one and single purpose of this incipient

concern was to demonstrate the feasibility and the possibility of bringing to fruition this scheme which had been the dream of so many and for so long. While this matter was in the formative stage, the Laramie-Poudre Tunnel scheme assumed a going condition and as it appropriated water that would naturally be diverted at the head of the proposed northern route, it very naturally barred further action by the Development Company. An effort was made to induce the Tunnel Company to take over the project on the north line, but for some reason they turned it down. This action decided the fate of the most conservative irrigation enterprise in Northern Colorado. This enterprise would have carried water twenty miles north of Cheyenne and have brought under cultivation a territory of a million and a quarter acres of fine land, nearly all of which would have been tributary to Larimer County.

"So fleet the works of man back to earth again,
Ancient and holy things fade like a dream."

Mr. Tenney was secretary of the Dixon Canon Ditch and Reservoir Company for 32 years.

The progressive spirit of Mr. Tenney would not lie dormant and in 1908 we find him engaged in the development of the coal measures of this county. The history in brief is as follows:

Mr. Tenney became aware of the fact that there was coal in this vicinity in July, 1871, when in the employ of J. S. Maynard, on the famous "Meadow Springs Ranch," near Carr Station on the D. P. R. R."

The first filing of this land that is on record was by Della Stephenson for the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, N $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26-11 N., R. 68 West of 6 P. M., Dec. 10, 1867. Another filing dates at March 30, 1869. John M. Veasey of South Bend, Indiana, made final proof on the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 26-11-68 and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 27-11-68 with land warrant E. R. R. 958, March 3, 1869. There were several filings made on this section later, and on April 7, 1888.

Hugh Barton patented the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$, which upon the migration of Mr. Barton to the land of his birth to claim an inheritance, was transferred to the Warren Live Stock Company of Cheyenne, Wyoming.

On January 3, 1896, filings were made on 480 acres of this section, but no work was ever done under these applications. On November 16, 1908, J. A. Dowdell, a son-in-law of Mr. Tenney, filed on the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$, NE of SE and SE of NE, and this was the inception of the movement that resulted in the development of the first coal mine in Larimer County. Immediately after this date Mr. Tenney applied for the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and patented the same, February 14, 1910.

From about November, 1909, to the present, coal has been mined from this land. The annual production of anthracite coal in Pennsylvania is 86,000,000 tons. The value of the western coal fields is far from known, and since 1906, very extensive tracts of coal-bearing lands have been withdrawn from settlement, principally in Wyoming, Montana, Colorado, Utah and New Mexico, these being largely of lignite.

Mr. Tenney is a voluminous reader, having a private library of more than a thousand volumes.

He is a frequent contributor to the local press and a believer in the educational influence of the press when directed in the right channel, a pungent writer and always in the interest of the under dog

Mr. Tenney was united in marriage with Isabelle Duff Robertson, in Lee County, Illinois, on the 22nd of February, 1871. Two daughters, Helen E. and Fanny A. were born of the union and both are living. Helen E. is now the wife of H. A. Greenamyre, and Fanny A. the wife of James A. Dowdell, both of Fort Collins. Mrs. Tenney's parents were natives of Perthshire, Scotland. They came from Scotland to America in 1808, and settled first in Burnstown, Ontario County, Canada, about 1833 where Mrs. Tenney was born on May 10, 1836.

In 1845 the Robertson family moved to Watertown, New York. Mrs. Tenney died October 9th, 1915, aged 79 years.

Mr. Tenney is a man of positive convictions and is fearless in expressing them. He has always been a pronounced upholder for what he believed to be right, - let the consequences, personally, be what they might. At the same time, he never questioned the right or privilege of others to differ with him on any subject. He is a true and loyal citizen of the United States and of the community in which he has lived for nearly a half century. He is a man of high ideals of life, upright and honorable in all his dealings with his fellowmen, and his integrity is unquestioned. He is a brave, big-hearted man, and like others of his class, his sympathies are with the down-trodden and oppressed, his hand at all times being outstretched to aid the weak and weary and the distressed. He is an excellent companion and a wise counselor, and the world is far better for his having spent his years in it, for his efforts have ever been directed towards progress upward and onward, and in striving to better the conditions mentally, morally, and physically of those about him. He has often sacrificed his personal interests in the endeavor to help others, less fortunate, to their feet. May his declining years be filled to overflowing with quiet peace and comfort, and with the assurance that he possesses the respect, confidence and esteem of a very large majority of those who know him best.

Selections from Mr. Tenney's Scrap Book

Clipped from the Rocky Mountain Herald of
July 11, 1874:

“The ruddy army of grangers hereabout held their Fourth in the Central Grove, near Denver. It being the first demonstration of the kind here, their procession through town was eagerly observed. Many of the wagons and carriages, full of farmers' wives and daughters, were decorated with flags, banners and grange emblems. Joseph W. Bowles, master of Littleton grange, acted as marshal of the day. The procession stretched out a mile and

a half and the attendance was estimated from 2,500 to 3,000. After dinner the audience was called together by the president of the day, George F. Packard, master of Ceres grange, who opened the exercises with a few brief remarks. The other speakers were Acting Governor Jenkins, R. Q. Tenney, master of the state grange, the orator of the day. Mrs. Baldwin of Platte Valley grange read an essay. P. M. Hinman, secretary of the state grange, J. A. Kramer of Kansas, and J. W. Drake of Bear Creek, also spoke. The granges represented at the picnic were: Ceres, Ralston, Clear Creek Valley, Rocky Mountain, Platte Valley, '59er, Sedalia, Left Hand, Fort Collins, Denver and Littleton."

(Note by the subject of this sketch.)

The subject of Heraldry is of little interest to the average American, but a brief outline may not be out of place, in view of the fact that our ancestors on each side have been, for some reason, honored in this respect. Winston's Cumulative Encyclopedia gives the following concerning Heraldry.

The knowledge of the forms, terms, and laws which pertain to the use of armorial bearings, or coats of arms, badges and emblems on shields, banners, etc., naturally occurred in the earliest times, and such symbols were sometimes hereditary. The origin of heraldic arms, properly so-called, is, however, to be attributed to the necessity which arose during the Crusades of distinguishing the leaders of the numerous and motley bands of warriors which constituted the Christian armies.

One of the oldest specimens of heraldic bearings extant is the shield at Mans, France, of Geoffrey Plantagenet, of Monmouth, who died in 1154.

Rolls of arms in England are extant from the reigns of Henry III, Edward I, and Edward II. The use of arms on the Great Seal of England was introduced by Richard I.

The bearing of coat-armor by private persons was prohibited by proclamation in the reign of Henry V.

.

A coat of arms consists of the figure of a shield marked and colored in a vast variety of ways, so as to be distinctive of an individual, a family or a community. The shield or coat of arms represents the original shield used in war, and on which arms were anciently borne. The figures borne on the shield may be either artificial or conventional, or may represent real objects, animals, plants, etc. The Miner Coat of Arms, according to the records, was gained in the following manner:

Henry Bullman, a miner by profession, pursuing his avocation at Mendippe Hills, County of Somerset, England, armed one hundred (100) of his miners and servants with battle axes and tendered his services to King Edward the III, and his son the "Black Prince," when on their way thru the "Mendippe Hills" to the coast, on the fourth expedition against France A. D. 1346, and for this valorous act was "Knighted" and the name of his profession "miner" given him for a sur-name and a "Coat of Arms." The King's secretary in his returns complimented the aforesaid Bullman for his loyalty in the following words recorded in Latin:

"The ocean, thru great rivers, with many currents, pay him tribute, disdains not to receive the lesser if loyal brooks which by one only urn pour themselves into his bosom," and the name given him was "Sir Henry Miner, Knight." This was the first generation of the Miners. This Henry 1st died at Mendippi Hills A. D. 1359, leaving four sons, Henry, Edward, Thomas, George." The record of the Miner family as brought down from Sir Henry Miner, to the 16th generation (which includes that of the writer) by E. A. Tenney in 1881, shows the following:

A CORNER IN ANCESTORS

Miners Belong to One of Most Ancient American Families of English Origin—Answers to Readers of The Star.

By FRANCES COWLES.

The coat-of-arms of the Miner family is described thus in terms heraldic: Gules a fesse argent, between, three plates. It has been suggested by an ingenious genealogist that the plates indicate Dutch dollars and that the derivation of the name follows as logically as night follows day. Any possessing dollars so nobly displayed would be dubbed at once, "my lord," especially by the money-loving Hollanders. The Dutch form of "my lord" being "Min heir," the simple transition to Miner is not difficult to imagine.

Unfortunately, the fact that the Miner family, like most other families, probably possessed a surname some time before they dreamed of having a coat-of-arms, rather invalidates this explanation. As a matter of fact, the origin is not hard to find. Like such names as Taylor, Smith, Baker, Draper and Barker, Miner is almost surely an occupational name and the first to bear it probably won his daily bread by seeking for ores below the earth's surface.

The crest accompanying this coat-of-arms is a mailed hand holding a battle axe armed at both ends proper. The motto is "spero ut fidelis."

This coat of arms of ancient English usage was used by one of the founders of the family in this country. This was Thomas Miner, who was in New London, Conn., as early as 1650. It is probable that he was born in England about 1608. In his home in the New World he took a prominent part in the work of colonization and became within a few years after his settlement in New London, selectman, and town recorder. Ancient records tell us that he engaged successfully in horse trading. Of his thirteen children, Manasseh, the fourth, was the first white

child born in New London. Descendants of this Thomas Miner are to be found in Pennsylvania and other States as well throughout New England.

Most Americans are satisfied if they can trace their origin to the first settler who established their line in this country. The Miners can do much more than this and can go back through nine ancestors to one Henry Miner, who is said to have been the first of the name. He was a resident of Mendippe Hills, Somerset county, England, who died in 1359. He had Henry, Edward, Thomas, and George. Of these four brothers, Henry was the forefather of the American family. He had a son, William, who had Thomas, who had Lodovick, who had Thomas, who had William, who was called the "Flower of Chivalrie," and fought under King Henry VII. Of his ten sons, William took up his residence at Chew Magna, in Somerset county, and his son Clement was the father of Thomas, who came to New London.

The history of the Tenney Coat of Arms is not so well recorded. It seems that the ancestors of this family emigrated to this country from Yorkshire County, England, in December, 1638. Martha Jane Tenney, daughter of Colonel A. B. W. Tenney (who died in Newbury, Vt., Sept. 13, 1873) was born July 23d, 1832, and resided until her death in Haverhill, Mass. She took up the unfinished work of compiling the history of the Tenney family to completion, taking it up where Prof. Jonathan Tenney, a graduate of Dartmouth College, left it at his death, Feb. 24, 1888. Miss M. J. Tenney in writing of Lieut. E. A. Tenney says: "To us he is known as the discoverer of the Tenney Coat of Arms." It may be inferred that by diligent search it was possible for Lieut. Tenney, brother of the subject of this sketch, to discover this "Armorial Emblem" among the archives of Yorkshire County, England, but the records of the family as compiled by Miss Tenney do not disclose just how this was accomplished.

IMPALEMENT OF ARMS.

The Miner arms are impaled with the following families at the sides of the pedigree against letters.

A. With the "Hicks," gu a fesse wavy, between 3 fleurs-de-lis.

B. With the "Hobbs" ar, 2 bars sable, in each of three compartments, three birds gu. Burke gives Hobbes, of Sarum, County of Wilts sa on a chev, or, between three swans ar as many lion's heads erased. (Perhaps the artist designed to represent swans in the sketch, but swans gules would be "rara avis" and the birds do not look swan-like, tho they might pass as ducks.)

C. With the "Gressley's" barry of six. Gules and ermine. (Gressley's of Coulton, County of Stafford.) Varie gu. and erm. Burks.

D. With the "Dyers" rev. fesse, indented gu. and or. (Note: I have little doubt that this ought to have been: Or a chief indented, gu., but the drawing is as I have given it.)

E. With the "Harcops"—sa—a chevron, between three lions (?) rampant ar.

F. With the "Hervies"—gu. on a fesse ar, 3 trefoils clipped.

G. With the "Popes"—per, pale or, and az, as many fleur-de-lis, all counter changed.

H. With the "Battings" ermine a fesse sable.

I. With the "Jones" ermine, a chevron sable.

Note: The writer hopes that this abridged record, tho perfect line of family record, will be preserved and handed down to next generations, and he will be well repaid.

Edwin A. Tenney.

LaCrosse, Wis., 1881.

Lieut. Tenney's translation of this "Heraldic Emblem" reads as follows:

"Tenney—Salsbury per chevron, sable and argent, three Griffin's heads erased and counter-charged. Being translated, signifies:

Chevron, means slanting from the middle each way.

Sable, means black. **Argent**, means white.

Griffin, a fabled animal, a mixture of lion and eagle, denotes power. The head, talons, wings, and claws were those of the eagle; neck, body, legs, and tail of the lion.

Erased, means torn off.

Counter-Charged, means white heads on black ground, and black heads on white ground.

Crest—Griffin's head, coupéd gules.

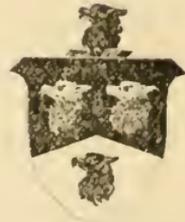
Coupéd means cut off as by one stroke of the sword.

Gules means red; the crest must be red.

Family Coat of Arms



MINER
1346-1920



TENNEY
1614-1920



MINER
1346-1920

ADDENDA

Before closing this sketch of the life and public service of R. Q. Tenney, one of Larimer county's prominent and highly esteemed pioneer citizens, it is fitting and appropriate to introduce the following letters and newspaper clippings, all attesting to Mr. Tenney's character as a man and public servant, to his enterprise as a commonwealth builder and to his sympathy with and desire for "Peace, Labor, Love and Rest" for struggling humanity. No words of mine are needed to strengthen and make stronger these voluntary testimonials to his public spirit, enterprise and Christian desires. They speak for themselves.

Mr. Tenney has always been a defender of and in deep sympathy with the under-dog in the struggle for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The first letter is from R. M. Winston of Denver, Secretary-Treasurer of the Colorado Division of Farmers' Educational Co-operative Union of America. The second is from Nat C. Murray of Washington, D. C., acting chief of the Bureau of Estimates, United States Department of Agriculture.

The clipping from the Fort Collins Courier of October 5, 1915, tells of Mr. Tenney's activities in opening a new farm, the fifth he had subdued from a wild state and brought under a state of food producing cultivation.

The bit of verse from an Oregon newspaper voices Mr. Tenney's creed in a succinct form.

Denver, Colo., March 15, 1913.

Hon. R. Q. Tenney,
Fort Collins, Colo.

My Dear Tenney:

So the 14th inst. found you at the seventy-fifth mile stone; young still in thought and body and working for the good of your fellow men. Your sturdy New England stock has been indeed a heritage that has sustained you thru many years of service to your family, mankind and your country. It is not often that we find men who are both

able and willing to give both unselfish and intelligent devotion to the good of humanity. From my acquaintance with you, I have discovered that you have done all of these things. The simple button of the Grand Army of the Republic that you wear is symbolical of your services. Modest and unassuming it may be, yet what honor is greater? So in your life, as I have seen it, I observe the same story as in your services to your country. Without the drum corps tactics of many, you have always striven to give the best that is in you to your neighbors and friends.

Your talents in the hands of time serving politicians might have given you a higher place at the distribution of the loaves and fishes, but your work for your fellow men would not have been consummated.

The great, substantial foundation of our successful country is the lives of men of your stamp. Men who esteem service in the cause of their fellows as a privilege. If we all could live this in our lives, what good could be accomplished. Let the fires of enthusiasm and energy for service burn even more brightly as you become younger; and may your friends and neighbors give you from time to time such words of commendation as will make life brighter and happier.

I am pleased that this late epoch in your life has given me this opportunity to pay you my tribute of respect, admiration and affection. I believe you are living so that when the summons comes you will go "not like the quarry slave scourged to his dungeon, but sustained and soothed by an unflinching trust, approach your grave like one who wraps the draperies of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

Accept my dear brother, all I can give; my sincere appreciation of your services.

Very fraternally,

R. M. WINSTON.

UNITED STATES DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Crop Estimates
Washington, D. C.

August 30, 1916.

Mr. R. Q. Tenney,
Fort Collins, Colo.

Dear Sir:

I have read with much interest the statement on your last report, and wish to congratulate you on the fact that you have not merely reached an advanced age, but have occupied your years in active usefulness. I trust that you have not only the satisfaction of knowing that your life in both its public and private capacity has been honorable and useful, but that you enjoy now and may continue to enjoy for many years, health and vigor.

Permit me to express our appreciation of your valued cooperation in connection with the Crop Reporting Service. We shall be glad to be of service to you, thru any means within our province, at all times.

Very truly yours,
NAT C. MURRAY,
Acting Chief of Bureau.

OPENING A NEW FARM

Out at Dixon canon, four and a half miles southwest of Fort Collins, R. Q. Tenney is opening out a new farm. He owns 160 acres of fine land on the prairie just outside of the canon, which he is improving and converting into a fine crop growing farm. He has fenced the tract and this season has cultivated about 40 acres of it to corn and alfalfa with marked success. The soil is a sandy loam, very fertile and easily worked. His twenty acre corn field, which is now being harvested and the fodder converted into ensilage, is mighty good to look at from a corn grower's standpoint. The stalks are strong and tall and the corn has already matured. It is in fact a little too hard for ensilage but he is filling a new concrete silo with it.

Mr. Tenney secured a fine stand of alfalfa and

will next year harvest a bumper crop from the field if nothing happens to it from now on. Aside from a stone underground stable he is having built and the silo, just finished, there are no permanent buildings on the place, Mr. Tenney's idea being first to get the land in condition to produce crops and erect the buildings afterward.

He has tapped the underflow at the mouth of the canon and created a reservoir from which he has laid 4000 feet of pipe to his building site thru which he is getting a steady flow of excellent water. In a low place on the tract Mr. Tenney is sinking a well to the underflow. From the well, by means of a pumping plant, he hopes to be able to irrigate a large portion of his farm. The land is above the ditch and the crops grown on the place this year were produced without irrigation.

The capacity of the silo is 75 tons and next season Mr. Tenney expects to build another one alongside the one already completed. He has the makings of a fine farm in this tract, either for crop growing, dairying, hog raising and poultry raising. Samples of the corn raised on the place this year compare favorably with the best produced in Iowa and Nebraska.

MR. TENNEY'S CREED

I ask no sign or record of renown;
I seek not fame for deeds I may perform;
But this I ask, while hellish voices drown;
The raging havoc of war's thunder:
Peace, and a cottage fire;
Love, and a quiet nest;
These do my soul desire:
Peace, labor, love and rest!
Rest from this tragic hate;
Rest from the battle's lust;
Rest from the soldier's fate—
Rest from war's blinding dust!
Life, and its honest face;
Life as the great God meant—
For every man a place—
Peace, labor and content!

110



MAY 75



N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA

