

Iowa People and Events . . .

Contract of Master and Apprentice

Until well into the nineteenth century a youth commonly learned a trade through the apprenticeship system. He was voluntarily, and sometimes involuntarily, bound to serve a master workman for a specified number of years in return for maintenance and training in a craft. A legal contract called an "indenture" prescribed the privileges and duties of master and apprentice. Such an agreement was found in the family papers of Mrs. Harry E. Kelley at Cedar Rapids, and is reproduced below:

This Indenture, made this 15th day of October A.D. 1834

by and between *Elam Kendall* of *Grundy Conn.* of the one party, and *G & H. Francis* of *Hartford Con.* of the other party, WITNESSETH: That the said *Elam Kendall* in consideration of the covenants and agreements hereinafter expressed, doth by these presents, as *Father* of *Albert Kendall* a minor, under the age of twenty-one years, with his free and voluntary consent, put and bind the said *Albert Kendall* an apprentice to the said *G & H Francis* to learn the art, trade or mystery of *the wood work of carriage making* and with *them* the said *G & H Francis* after the manner of an apprentice to serve from and after the date of these presents, until he shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years, fully to be completed and ended, which will be on the 3d day of *July* - - A.D. 1836; during which term, the said apprentice his said masters shall faithfully serve, *their* secrets keep, and *their* lawful commands every where gladly obey. He shall do no damage to his said masters, nor see it be done by others; but shall forthwith, if in his power, give notice thereof to his said masters. He shall not waste the goods of his said masters, nor lend, nor sell them unlawfully to any. He shall not commit fornication, nor contract matrimony during the said term. He shall not play at cards, dice, tables or any other unlawful game whereby his said masters may have any loss. With his own goods or goods of others, during said term, without the license of his said masters he shall neither buy nor sell. He shall not haunt taverns or play-houses, nor absent *himself* from his said master's service, day or night unlawfully; but in all things, as a faithful apprentice, he shall behave himself towards his said masters and all *theirs* during said term.

And the said *G & H. Francis* - - in consideration of the premises and of the agreements and undertakings above expressed, doth by these presents, covenant and agree, that *they* will by the best means that

they can, teach and instruct their said apprentice, or cause him to be taught or instructed, so far as he shall be capable of learning, the said art, trade or mystery of the wood work of carriage making finding unto the said apprentice, meat, drink, apparel, lodging, and all necessaries suitable for such an apprentice, during said term and the s^d G & H. Francis agree to give for the purpose of clothing said apprentice Twenty Dollars the first year of his apprenticeship commencing the 2, Nov 1833 and to increase the sum of Five Dollars annually during his term of service

And for the true performance of all and every the said covenants and agreements, each of the said parties bind themselves unto the other, firmly by these presents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties above named, to these indentures have interchanged . . . set their hands and seals, this 21 day of Nov—A.D. 1834

James Francis

G. & H . . .	[Corner of]
Elam . . .	[document]
Albe . . .	[gone]

It is furthermore agreed that the said Albert continue . . . with s^d Francis to make out 3 Years from the time . . . before his term of service will have expired. . . .

Albe . . .

Iowa Civil War Centennial

An exhibit sponsored by the State Civil War Centennial Commission illustrating the Iowa and national scene in 1860 attracted considerable attention at the State Fair. Visitors viewed with much interest a completely furnished bedroom, parlor and kitchen of the period, a selection of recent books on the Civil War; a scale model of the famed Little Brown Church in the Vale at Nashua which was established in 1860; reproductions of Mathew Brady's wartime photographs; Civil War arms and accouterments; and Lincoln documents, statues, and mementoes of his association with Senator James Harlan of Iowa. The eight different displays were prepared through the cooperation of the Chickasaw County Historical Society, the Brenton Banks, the Iowa State Library Association, the Des Moines Public Library, the Mason House Museum at Bentonsport, the Lincoln sesquicentennial committee, State Department of History and Archives, and Iowa Wesleyan College.

The federal government, many states, counties, cities and

towns, as well as private organizations, are making extensive preparations to commemorate the approaching centennial of the great civil conflict that shaped much of the subsequent history of America. The Iowa Civil War Centennial Commission, appointed by Governor Loveless as directed by the last General Assembly, is advancing plans for appropriately observing Iowa's significant role in the Civil War. Centennial headquarters have been established in the state capitol, and Mrs. Edith W. McElroy of Des Moines was named executive secretary July 1. Members of the Commission are Willard D. Archie, Shenandoah, chairman, state representative Joseph B. Flatt, Winterset, vice chairman, Fleming Fraker Jr., State Department of History and Archives, secretary, Miss Amy Noll, Des Moines, treasurer, L. Dale Ahern, Decorah, state representative William G. Bohi, Havelock, Ralph Evans, Davenport, state senator Eugene M. Hill, Newton, Prof. William D. Houlette, Drake University, and William J. Petersen, State Historical Society. Advisers are Clyde H. Doolittle, Des Moines, and Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr., State University of Iowa.

All Iowans are encouraged to participate in local centennial programs. Over forty counties have formed centennial committees to recognize and honor their men and women who sacrificed that the state and nation might endure. The State Commission will assist in an advisory and coordinating capacity wherever requested. Several regional workshops are to be held in October to suggest and explain ways and means of carrying out local objectives of the centennial such as the compilation of rosters of those enlisting in each county and the marking and maintenance of Civil War sites and graves. Plans are also being made for a statewide rally in March with speakers of national prominence, including Major General Ulysses S. Grant III (ret.), chairman of the national Civil War Centennial Commission, Karl Betts, executive director, and Iowa Congressman Fred Schwengel, a member of the national Civil War Centennial Commission.

An important project of the centennial in Iowa and other states is the bringing to light of previously unknown Civil War letters and manuscripts. The State commission has appointed Dr. James I. Robertson, Jr., *Civil War History*, State Univer-

sity of Iowa, Iowa City, to assist in the preservation and reproduction of such Iowa historical documents.

Conference on Historic Sites

The Department of Architecture of Iowa State University at Ames will sponsor a conference on the acquisition, care and use of historic buildings and sites, September 23 and 24. Ways and means of preserving the significant remains of our mid-west architectural and cultural heritage will be discussed by architects, archaeologists, historians, and public administrators under the chairmanship of Prof. Lawton M. Patten. William J. Murtagh, administrative assistant to the president of the National Trust, architectural historian and authority on early German cultural influences in America, will present the principal talk on "Heritage Is Everybody's Business."

All interested individuals and organizations are invited to participate. It is hoped that the information and advice offered at this meeting will stimulate their efforts to improve the care of Iowa's historic structures and sites.

Last Survivor of Black Hawk War

Mrs. Probus Eberle of East Dubuque is probably the last survivor of the Black Hawk War. She is a full-blooded Sac Indian and when a little girl was picked up on the battlefield of Bad Ax by Bun Jordan, a son of the first settler of East Dubuque by whom she was afterward adopted. She married a German farmer named Eberle in 1854, with whom she lived happily until his death a few years ago. She will shortly leave East Dubuque to pass the remainder of her life with the family of her foster brother, George Jordan of Wiota, Cass County.—*The Omaha Daily Bee*, November 24, 1890.

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