1938 Interview with Mrs. John Grosvenor about 1873 Life in a Sod House

November, 1938 Interview	Original typed form	2
Transcript		-







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November, 1938

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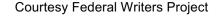
Circumstances of Interview

Frederick & Maul EQUAL OF ROBERRY, L & Hollins ...AUCDESS. Folklor*SUBLECT....

- Mrs. John Grosvenor, Kastings, Kebr name and address of informant
- pate end time of interview Nov. 1938
- Place of interview ĸ. at home
- game and address of person, if any, who get you in touch with 4. informunt

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- Pare and address of porson, if any, accompanying you 3. поде
- Description of reom, house, surroundings, ove. Modern, cory, 5 room house, well painted and very nest pard. Rooms very bleen. Some modern furniture. House and walls filled with pictures, tables, clocks, fancy china and glassware covering accumilations over the last sixty years.









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Mannafield Ohio Satton, Neh Logen, Kane, Hastings, Kab.
MODELLEDY, OHIO, SECOND, MON. MODAN, MINER - MERINGS, NOT
3. Limestion, with dates
Country grade school
e. Design Constant secomplishments, with extes
former's wife
7. Special skills and interests
Splendid producing fine garden and flowers
Sa Community use cells/loss solivilles
First Christian Church
9. Decomination of information
Small, thin, alert and active. Always worked hard, enjoys it . Very fishely
AD. Other points galled on interview
Her and her husband live alone, Have been married 50 years. Started out together on a homestead with nothing. Betired now many years. Enjoys life immensely. Noteabove as quoted by Mrs. Grosvepox







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FORM C

Test of Interview (Uredited)

	La Rolling	MI Rastings, Neb.
		subject Folklore
SAKE	AND ADDRESS OF DESCRIPTION	Mrs. John Brosvenor, Hastings, Neb.

Attached copy







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Foderal Writers' Project Brederick W Saul-L A Rollins Eastings, Nobregka. Source; as related by Mrs. John Grosvenor, 1404 West 6th St., Hastings, Neb.

Easter Sunday Storm of 1873

"In 1875, I was on a farm near Sutton, Neb. We had a sed house. We had what was called the big room, lean to kitchen and dag out bedroom. This was sort of like going down a half dag kitchen. There was a large family. S children and my father and mother.

We had two beds in the big room. These like all the rest of things were mais of cottonwood lumber. We slept on straw ticks. We exter-

The storm case toward swoning and got as dark as night. Chickone want to rount and I'll nover forget how dark it got. Showed all night hard, a strong wind, such drifting and covered the windows.

There was a monee hole in the dirt roof over one of the bods in the big room. The most sifted thru this hole and drifted from bed to the roof.

the one borse we had. He thought it would be frozen but it wenn't and he brought it in the big Your with west of the family. Pulled the beds to center of room and made a stall there near the soll. The one dow and there, we put in the lean to kitchen. Chickens we put in the dug out bedroom. It kept on snowing and the wind get stronger. It snowed for 3 days and 3 nights and dark nearly all the time as snow was so thick, after the first day if anyone last the house, they tied a rope sround than. It wann't so cold but the wind and such thick wet and heavy snow that stuck to everything and chilled right thru in a heavy.







Page 5

The great deep draws were just level. The wind and noise was terrific all the time. Made one's ears hum and buzz all the time.

We had a pulley well, "Aw on the 2nd afternoon wanted a real drink of water. We all did. Here so which of smow water: The well was right alone to the house.

Par took the wooden bucket with him. Sot to the well and was holding the bucket between his legs while he started to draw the water. The wind got the bucket.

He came in the house, his long flowing beard and clothes covered with snow.

Maw sold, "There's the bucket of water."

Paw said, "God only knows, between beaven and earth somewhere."

Since those many years ago, I've thought and lunghed many times over this. He mad and dispusted and plenty sick of snow water. We kids too standing around thinking of that good soll water only a few feet wasy.

when the snow went off we found the bucket a hulf mile from home.

We had only enow water, buffelo meat, bread and gravy. Buffelo gravy, I think and so many others too, have said so is the most delicious of all, but of meat Itll take beef or pork.

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FORM A Circumstances of Interview

NAME OF WORKER <u>Frederick K. Kaul, L.A. Rollins</u> ADDRESS <u>Hastings, Nebraska</u>
DATE <u>November, 1938</u>
SUBJECT <u>Folklore</u>

- 1. Name and address of informant. Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Nebr
- 2. Date and time of interview. Nov. 1938
- 3. Place of interview. At home
- 4. Name and address of person, if any, who put you in touch with informant. none
- 5. Name and address of person, if any, accompanying you. none
- 6. Description of room, house, surroundings, etc. Modern, cozy, 5 room house, well painted and very neat yard. Rooms very clean. Some modern furniture. House and walls filled with pictures, tables, clocks, fancy china and glassware covering accumulations over the last sixty years.

FORM B Personal History of Informant

NAME OF WORKER <u>Frederick K. Kaul, L.A. Rollins</u> ADDRESS <u>Hastings, Nebraska</u>
DATE <u>November, 1938</u> SUBJECT <u>Folklore</u>
NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Nebraska

- 1. Ancestry Dutch and Irish
- 2. Place and date of birth Moorefield, Ohio, Dec, 20, 1861.
- 3. Family Husband, one adopted son
- 4. Place lived in, with dates Moorefield, Ohio, Sutton, Neb. Logan, Kans. Hastings, Nebraska
- 5. Education, with dates Country grade school
- 6. Occupations and accomplishments, with dates Farmer's wife
- 7. Special skills and interests Splendid producing fine garden and flowers
- 8. Community and religious activities First Christian Church
- 9. Description of informant Small, thin, alert and active. Always worked hard, enjoys it, very friendly.
- 10. Other points gained in interview Her and her husband live alone. Have been married <u>59</u> <u>years</u>. Started out together on a homestead with nothing. Retired now many years. Enjoys life immensely. Note—above as guoted by Mrs. Grosvenor.

11.

FORM C Text of Interview (Unedited)

NAME OF WORKER <u>Frederick K. Kaul, L.A. Rollins</u> ADDRESS <u>Hastings, Nebraska</u>
DATE <u>November, 1938</u> SUBJECT <u>Folklore</u>
NAME AND ADDRESS OF INFORMANT Mrs. John Grosvenor, Hastings, Nebraska

Attached copy







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(Page 4)
Federal Writer's Project
Frederick K. Kaul,L. A. Rollins
Hastings, Nebraska

Source:

as related by Mrs. John Grosvenor 1404 West 6th St., Hastings, Neb.

Easter Sunday Storm of 1873

"In 1873, I was on a farm near Sutton, Neb. We had a sod house. We had what was called the big room, lean to kitchen and dug out bedroom. This was sort of like going down a half dug kitchen. There was a large family. 8 children and my father and mother.

"We had two beds in the big room. These, like all the rest of things, were made of cottonwood lumber. We slept on straw ticks. We entertained our company in the big room.

"The storm came toward evening and got as dark as night. Chickens went to roost and I'll never forget how dark it got. Snowed all night hard, a strong wind, much drifting and covered the windows.

"There was a mouse hole in the dirt roof over one of the beds in the big room. The snow sifted through this hole and drifted from bed to the roof.

"We had only a straw barn and Paw got out to see first about the one horse we had. He thought it would be frozen but it wasn't and he brought it in the big room with most of the family. Pulled the beds to center of room and made a stall there near the wall. The one cow and calf we put in the lean to kitchen. Chickens we put in the dugout bedroom. It kept on snowing and the wind got stronger. It snowed for 3 days and 3 nights and dark nearly all time as snow was so thick. After the first day, if anyone left the house, they tied a rope around them. It wasn't so cold, but the wind and such thick wet and heavy snow that stuck to everything and chilled right through in a hurry.

(Page 5)

"The great deep draws were just level. The wind and noise was terrific all the time. Made one's ears hum and buzz all the time.

"We had a pulley well. Paw on the 2nd afternoon wanted a real drink of water. We all did. We were so sick of snow water. The well was right close to the house.

"Paw took the wooden bucket with him. Got to the well and was holding the bucket between his legs while he started to draw the water. The wind got the bucket.

"He came in the house, his long flowing beard and clothes covered with snow.

"Maw said, 'Where's the bucket of water?'

"Paw said, 'God only knows, between heaven and earth somewhere.'

"Since those many years ago, I've thought and laughed many times over this. Paw mad and disgusted and plenty sick of snow water. We kids, too, standing around thinking of that good well water only a few feet away.

"When the snow went off we found the bucket a half mile from home.

"We had only snow water, buffalo meat, bread and gravy. Buffalo gravy, I think and so many others too, have said so, is the most delicious of all, but of meat I'll take beef or pork."





