

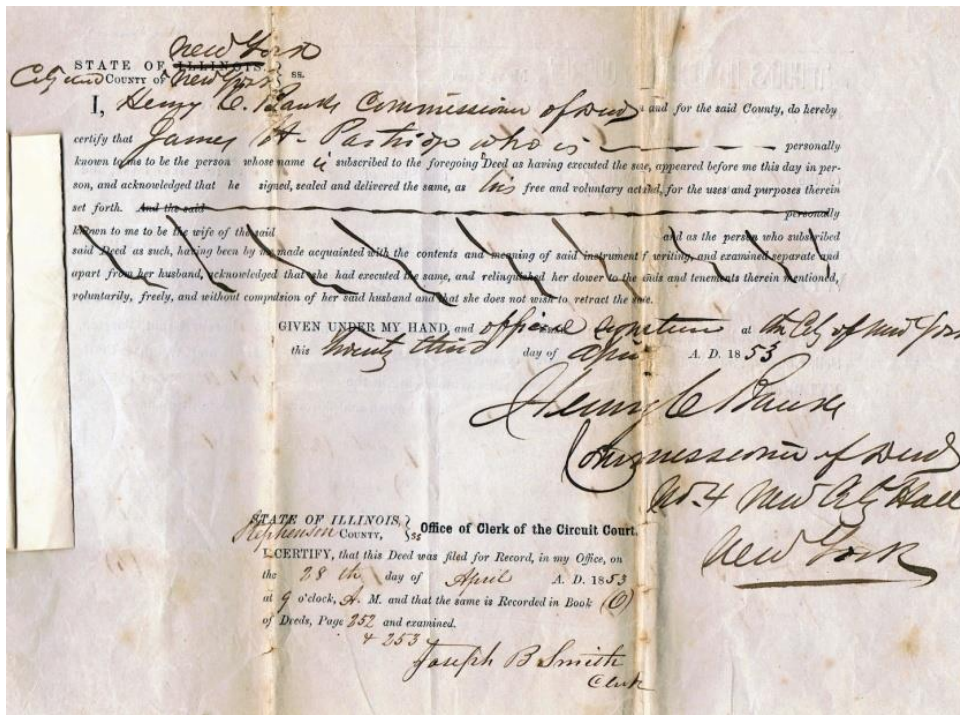
In the 1800s the US govt. passed several scrip acts. They issued land to soldiers in lieu of pay for service or to entice more fellows to hitch up. In 1849 Cotton Partridge was issued the north half of the original Saaijenga farm. Cotton sold those 40 acres for \$10 to his son James who also was issued many more acres of land in Ridott Twp. near German Valley, IL.

In 1853 James sold 80 of those acres to Great Grampa and Great Gramma Folkert and Lucasdina Saaijenga for \$250. The official papers were signed April 23, 1853 in New York City. Five days later those papers were validated in Freeport, IL. This speed amazes me. The paper work had to go by snail-mail.

[PRINTED AT THE JOURNAL OFFICE, FREEPORT.]

THIS INDENTURE, MADE THIS _____ DAY OF _____
in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and *fifty three,* BETWEEN
James C. Partridge
of the *City and* County of *New York* and State of *New York* of the FIRST PART, and
Folkert Karsjens Saaijenga
of the *City and* County of *New York* and State of *New York* of the SECOND PART,
WITNESSETH, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of
two hundred and fifty DOLLARS, to him in hand PAID, the receipt of which is
hereby acknowledged, ha^y Granted, Bargained, Sold, Conveyed and Confirmed, and doe^s hereby Grant, Bargain,
Sell, Convey, and Confirm unto the said party of the second part, and to *his* Heirs and Assigns FOR-
EVER, all that Tract or Parcel of LAND, situate and being in the *Town of Ridott* County of
Stephenson and State of *Illinois* and known and described as follows, to wit:—
*The East half (1/2) of the Northwest quarter (1/4) of Section No.
twenty seven (27) containing eighty (80) acres be the same more or
less: Said land being situated in township No. twenty
six (26) North, of Range No. nine (9) East of the fourth (4)
principal meridian.*

TOGETHER with all and singular, the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining:
TO HAVE AND TO HOLD, the above described premises unto the said party of the second part, and
to *his* Heirs and Assigns FOREVER: and the said party of the first part, for himself and *his*
Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, doe^s COVENANT AND AGREE to and with the said party of the second
part, *his* Heirs and Assigns, that *he is* well seized of the premises above Conveyed, as of a
good and indefeasible inheritance in the Law in Fee Simple, and that the said premises are clear of all incum-
brances, whatever.
And the said party of the first part the aforesaid premises, unto the said party of the second part, and *his*
Heirs and Assigns, against the claim or claims of all and every person whomsoever, doe^s and will WARRANT
and FOREVER DEFEND by these presents.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the said party of the first part, ha^y hereunto set *his* hand and seal the
day and year first above written.
EXECUTED IN PRESENCE OF
J. C. Partridge
Chaet Billy



(Folkert and Lucasdina had arrived in New York Aug. 16, 1850 with their daughter Haukedina who was born May 1, 1850 in Germany. Imagine taking an infant on a ship for days. While living in New York City, Folkert was a blacksmith and, also, Grampa George was born May 19, 1853.)

After purchasing the farm, Folkert and Lucasdina packed up their possessions plus their 2 children and found their way half way across the country to German Valley. Their original cabin burned so they erected a second cabin which was the basis for later additions thru the years.



Money was tight in 1855 and they were not able to pay the 1854 county tax for the farm so it was sold at public auction June 12, 1855 to Bright and Smith. Aug. 31, 1855 Folkert was able

to redeem the farm for \$5.75. The original tax bill had been \$2.70 but penalties bumped it up to \$5.75.

State of Illinois
 Stephenson County
 Office of the Clerk of the County Court
 of Stephenson County

I, James Davis Esq. Clerk of the County Court
 of Stephenson County, hereby certify that Folkert
 Haajonger has deposited in this office Five \$100 Dollars
 for the redemption of the Cross half (1/2) of the North West
 Quarter (1/4) of Section 40 Twenty Seven (27) in Township 40
 Twenty Six (26) South of Range 40 Nine (9) East of the 4th
 P.M., which was sold to Barthe & Smith for State County
 and Township Taxes due and unpaid for the year 1854
 on the 11th & 12th days of June A.D. 1855 by the Treasurer of
 said County

Amount of Sale	\$ 2.70
Pen. Remitted per Cent	3.00
	\$ 4.57
Wishes Fees	1.18
	\$ 5.75

Witness my hand and the Seal of
 said Court this 31st day of August
 A.D. 1855
 James Davis Clerk

Disaster struck the very next month when Folkert died Sept. 26, 1855 of a heat stroke. There was Lucasdina with a 5 yr. old daughter and a 2 year old son and an 80 acre farm to care for alone. Because Folkert had no will, Haukedina and George inherited the farm. Lucasdina did not own it.

Eleven months later Lucasdina remarried (Sept. 1, 1856).

THE BONDS OF MARRIAGE

between Sibold Heinrich Goberg
 born at Emden Ostfriesland on the 24th day of October 1827
 and Lucasdina Brusser
 born at Junguen Ostfriesland on the 18th day of January 1842
 were **CONFIRMED** by me according to law, and the usages of the Reformed
Protestant Dutch Church, in North America on the 1st day
 of August in the year of our Lord, One Thousand, Eight Hundred
 and 56

Given at the house of the bride
 this twentieth first day of
August A. D. 1856
 Recorded in the Records of the Church
 in Illion Creek

John Martin Wagner
 Pastor of the Protestant
Reformed Dutch Church
 in Illion Creek

Henry Sjöberg was listed by Folkert in a notebook as having helped with farm work. The marriage fizzled and things were not pretty; the courts ordered him to stay away from the children.

State of Illinois }
Stephenson County } ss In County Court of
Said County

The people of the State of Illinois to
Henry Sjöberg of the Town of Redott in
Said County greeting

Whereas complaint has been made this
day in our said court that you the
said Henry Sjöberg have and are without
due authority or right & contrary to the
wishes of the parties most interested
exercising ownership by removing &
appropriating to your own use
certain property goods & effects
belonging to Haukedina Folkert Saaij-
-enga and Gerd Folkert Saaijenga
Minors who have no guardian.

Now you are hereby
warned at your peril from removing, or
appropriating any goods chattels live
stock or effects of any kind soever in
which said minors may have or can be
likely to establish a claim to during the
pendency of proceedings in this court for
the appointing of a guardian for said minors
until further order to you directed

by this court

Witness George Thompson the
Clerk of said Court and the
Seal thereof affixed at
Troupport this 4th day of
December 1867
Geo. Thompson
Clerk



In Dec. 1867 the courts decided that Haukedina and George needed a guardian so they appointed a neighbor to govern the finances of the farm. (Lukasdina was allowed to raise the kids on the farm.)

STATE OF ILLINOIS, }
Stephenson County, } ss.

In the County Court, December Term, A. D. 1867

The People of the State of Illinois, to John G. Bode
of said County, GREETING :

WHEREAS, at the December term of the County Court of said County, A. D. 1867, holden at Freeport you were, by order of said Court, duly entered of record on the Nineteenth day of said month, duly appointed Guardian for Naukedina and George J. Naukedina

Trusting in your fidelity, therefore, the said Court do th by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Guardian unto said minors and authorize and empower you to take and have the care of their person and the custody and management of their property, frugally and without waste or destruction, to improve and account for the same in all things, according to law.

WITNESS, Geo. Thompson Clerk of the said County Court, and the Probate Seal of said Court hereunto affixed, at Freeport this Nineteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven

Geo. Thompson Clerk.

In 1874 Haukedina and George sold their shares of the farm to their mother for \$1. Neither this transaction nor the children inheriting the farm in 1855 show up in the abstract. I have the original quit claims for the 1874 transfer to Lucasdina.

In 1899 Lucasdina died and Haukedina and George inherited the farm for the second time. Haukedina sold her share to George for \$3220, making the value of the 80 acres jump from \$10 to \$250 to \$6440. This transaction was not listed on the official abstract but I have the original quit claims.

Oct. 1901 George married Hilka Popkes and they were the parents of 9 children. George died Jan. 4, 1925 and Hilka died Aug. 19, 1943. The farm was owned by the 9 children. In 1946 Folkert and Anna Saaijenga bought out the shares of Folkert's 8 siblings. Value of the farm was listed as \$8800.



In 1986 the farm was purchased by Folkert and Ann's daughter and son in law for \$58,000.

In 1988 the farm was sold in 2 parcels (one parcel, the buildings and 5.8 acres, the other parcel the remaining acres of farmland) for a total of over \$100,000. In the 139 years since the original transfer from the US government the value jumped from \$10 to well over \$100,000. It was a good home for 17 people thru the years.

