

From: [Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc.](http://IndianaGenealogicalSociety.com)
To: mere_thom@runbox.com
Subject: Indiana News - 9 May 2014
Date: Friday, May 09, 2014 4:11:55 PM

Having trouble viewing this e-mail? [View it as a webpage](#)



Indiana News

9 MAY 2014

QUICK LINKS:

[Indiana News - Past Issues](#)
[IGS - Facebook](#)
[IGS - Blog](#)
[IGS - Twitter](#)
[IGS website](#)

IN THIS ISSUE:

[State of Indiana Offers Digitizing Grants](#)
[Update: Public Access to Death Records](#)
[FamilySearch Adds To Indiana Marriage Index](#)
[Update: Probate Records Project](#)
[FOUND: Elkhart Co. & St. Joseph Co. Photo IGS Database Additions](#)
[Indiana Historic Newspapers Digitized](#)
[Ancestry.com Adds Quaker Records](#)
[County Roundup](#)
[War of 1812 Pension Digitizing](#)
[Civil War in the News](#)
[Update: Indiana's Congressional Districts](#)
[Kosciusko Co. Adoption Approved \(1851\)](#)
[Divorces Granted by Indiana Legislature \(1828\)](#)
[Research Tip: Civil War Support Payments](#)
[Legal Terms Explained: Nil Dicit](#)
[Latin Terms Used in Genealogy](#)

Did you receive this e-mail from a friend?



Welcome to the May 2014 edition of *Indiana News*! This e-mail is sent out during the first half of every month and focuses on Indiana genealogy and history. It is sent to members of the Indiana Genealogical Society and the public can also sign up to receive it.

For IGS Members: Indiana Genealogist available

A reminder for Indiana Genealogical Society members that the March 2014 issue of our quarterly is available for download in the [IGS Records](#) section of the Members Only area. It includes an article about a Civil War soldier from Hendricks County and Owen County, with photos of his amputated leg (courtesy of a medical museum).

State of Indiana Offers Digitizing Grants

The Indiana State Historic Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) is offering \$5,000 grants to Indiana non-profit organizations and local government entities. The grants (which must have local funds to match) are to help digitize historical Indiana records, and/or to hire a consultant to analyze local records collections. The deadline to apply is **May 30, 2014**. Read their [press release](#) and download the [application & guidelines](#).

Update: Public Access to Death Records

The Indiana Supreme Court is now hearing arguments in the appeal of the *Evansville Courier & Press*, which sued the Vanderburgh County Health Department in 2012 to allow the cause of death to be displayed on death records that are released to the public. Indiana's Attorney General supports the newspaper in their lawsuit and the Indiana Public Access Counselor previously issued a ruling in favor of the cause of death being public.

FamilySearch Adds To Indiana

Marriage Index

FamilySearch has updated their [Indiana Marriage Index 1811-1959](#). Digital images for Miami County (spanning 1845-1957) and Wells County (1863-1951) have been added. These images are browseable and have not been indexed yet; the database is searchable for 67 of Indiana's 92 counties. For a breakdown of what counties are included (including what years have digital images available), please visit our [Indiana Marriage Indexing Project](#) page.

Update: Probate Records Project

We're over 90% finished with the unfolding & organizing of the Hendricks County 1824-1900 records collection. Want to help get us closer to 100%? Stop by our next work session on **Saturday, July 5, 2014** from 10 am to 4 pm at the [Plainfield Public Library](#), where we'll be working on records from the 1870's through the 1890's. Please register online via the library's [events calendar](#) or contact the library's Indiana Room - phone (317) 839-6602 extension 2114.

We've also added 40 entries to our database of the [dates of death](#) listed in the estate cases - there are now 1,135 entries.

FOUND: Elkhart County & St . Joseph County Photo

photo of Jesse Strycker

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found 3 photos belonging to the STRYCKER family of northern Indiana and Missouri and is seeking to return them to family.



Photo of Jesse Strycker - see [full-size PDF](#))

The first photo (shown at left) is identified as Jesse STRYCKER and was taken at the Iden Studio in Bourbon, Marshall County, Indiana. This photo appears to have been taken in the 1880's or 1890's, with Jesse likely in his 20's at the time. The second photograph is also identified as Jesse STRYCKER taken at the age of 5 years, likely in the early 1900's - perhaps the man in the first photo is the father of the Jesse in the second photo.

The third photo is identified as being Mildred May (or Mary) STRYCKER of 1815 Norton Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, age 5 years. This photo was also taken in the early 1900's.

For details, please read our [blog post](#).

IGS Database Additions

Premium databases that we've added in the past month:

[College Records:](#)

- Butler University - graduates (1883)
- Butler University - students (1938)
- Taylor University - students (1888-1891)

[County Records:](#)

- Hendricks County - 1850 mortality schedule index
- Owen County - civil court records index (1833-1839)

[Military Records:](#)

- Civilians in Training Course at Camp Knox, Kentucky (1922)
- Indiana Legion Soldiers Captured by Morgan's Raiders in the Civil War (1863)
- Indiana's Civil War Soldiers Buried In Andersonville National Cemetery, Georgia
- Personnel of Army Base Hospital 32 in World War I (1917-1918)
- Roster of 62nd Engineers in World War I (1918-1919)

[Statewide Records:](#)

- Doctors in Indiana State Medical Society (1861)

Indiana Historic Newspapers Digitized

The Indiana State Library has been digitizing a selection of historic newspapers from across Indiana, as part of a grant for the National Digital Newspaper Program. These 95,000 digital images can be browsed at <https://newspapers.library.in.gov/>

The library recently received a grant to digitize another 100,000 pages, including some newspapers from Evansville, South Bend and Vincennes.

Ancestry.com Adds Quaker Records

Ancestry.com subscribers now have access to a large collection of Quaker records, including those provided by Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. Quakers were one of the largest religious groups to settle in Indiana. For more information on the contents of the Ancestry.com collection, please see their [blog post](#).

County Roundup

Here are some genealogical and local history news items from around the state. NOTE: Items on news sites often change or are removed without notice - we apologize if you encounter a link that no longer works.

ALLEN COUNTY

In our March 2014 issue, we told you of a partnership between FamilySearch and the Allen County Clerk to digitize Allen County court

records from the 1800's. Since then, volunteers from the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana and the LDS Church have spent over 500 hours unfolding probate packets in preparation for them to be digitized. Among the items they've found so far are 100 \$5 bills that were issued by the state of New York in 1855 (Thanks to Marge Graham for this update).

BROWN COUNTY

Officials are asking for a tax increase in order to [upgrade](#) the Brown County courthouse in Nashville. The building, which is 130 years old, is not wheelchair-accessible.

DECATUR COUNTY

A Greensburg newspaper article [highlights](#) the storage problems of the Decatur County courthouse basement, including photos of tarps used to cover some records.

DUBOIS COUNTY

During a renovation, homeowners in Jasper [discovered letters](#) that were written in World War I. The letters from Clements Berger, which were found in the wall of an attic, were written in 1918 to his girlfriend. The homeowners were able to find relatives of the family and give them the letters.

FLOYD COUNTY

The New Albany-Floyd County Public Library recently received a large donation of [property abstracts](#). The abstracts, which were done by the Southern Indiana Title Co., are a great way to find out who all the owners of a property were.

HUNTINGTON COUNTY

The Huntington City-Township Public Library's Indiana Room has been [digitizing](#) some of its collection. Over 700 historic photos are [online](#) so far.

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

Volunteers who live in the St. Joseph County area are being asked to help the South Bend Area Genealogical Society with their project to index St. Joseph County death records from 1921 to present (the WPA indexed the death records from 1882-1920). Volunteers must have their own laptop with Microsoft Excel software and be able to visit one of the 2 locations when they are open (Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 4 pm). The 2 locations are: the St. Joseph County Health Department in South Bend (County-City Building, 8th floor) and the Mishawaka Vital Records Office (219 Lincolnway West in Mishawaka). All volunteers must sign a Volunteer Confidentiality Statement before starting the project. If interested, please contact Jim Curtis (gjamescurtis38@att.net).

War of 1812 Pension Digitizing

The Federation of Genealogical Societies' project to digitize the War of 1812 pension files is now 15% complete, with 1.1 million documents [online](#). They're now working on files for surnames that begin with "G". Valerie Craft has a [blog post](#) explaining the kind of information she found in a pension file for her ancestor - including how it differed from what was listed in an index.

Civil War in the News

The ashes of an Indiana Civil War soldier were buried at Marion National Cemetery in Grant County in a ceremony last month. The cremated remains of Private Hiram Maine, along with those of World War I veteran Forest Smith and World War II veteran Leo Valdez, Jr., were discovered recently in the storage vaults of an Indianapolis funeral home. The Missing in America Project provided burials with military honors for the 3 veterans.

The Indiana State Library in Indianapolis has a new display about the Civil War. The display, titled "The Hardship & Hope: The Life of The Hoosier Soldier During The Civil War," will run until August 29.

Update: Indiana's Congressional Districts

1865 IRS bill

In our March 2014 issue, we talked about the importance of knowing what Congressional district an Indiana county was in, as some federal records were organized not by county, but by Congressional district.



Recently in our work with the Hendricks County probate records, we came across an example of that - an Internal Revenue Service bill from 1865 for someone in Indiana's 6th Congressional District. It shows Tristan Coggeshall owed a total of \$15.55 to the IRS - he was taxed at the 5% rate for his personal income, as well as \$1 for each of the 2

IRS tax bill for 1865 - see [full-size PDF](#)
carriages he owned.

Kosciusko County Adoption Approved (1851)

In February 1851, the Indiana legislature passed a law approving the petition of James H. Jacoby and wife Ursula A. Jacoby of Oswego, Kosciusko County. They had adopted an unnamed baby girl from the orphan asylum in Cincinnati, and given her the name Mary Jacoby. The legislature approved the Jacoby's adoption of Mary.

Source: *Local laws of the State of Indiana passed at the thirty-fifth session of the General Assembly* (Indianapolis: J.P. Chapman, 1851).

Divorces Granted by Indiana Legislature (1828)

The Indiana General Assembly granted the following divorce petitions in January 1828:

- James Pattengill and Sarah Markle (Sarah to have sole custody of son Markle Pattengill)
- David T. Maddox and Nancy Leonard (Nancy to have sole custody of infant children)
- John C. Brown and Polly Jackson (of Spencer County)
- Reuben Stout and Elizabeth Carr
- Edward Corbin and Margaret Corbin
- Edward W. Rose and Sally Rose (Sally to have sole custody of infant children)

Source: *Laws of the State of Indiana, passed and published at the twelfth session of the General Assembly* (Indianapolis: Smith and Bolton, 1828).

Research Tip: Civil War Support Payments

In March 1865 - just one month before the Civil War ended - the Indiana legislature passed a law adding a special property tax for 1865 and 1866 (Acts of 1865, regular session, Chapter 40). The tax consisted of a \$1 poll tax plus a tax rate of \$0.003 for every \$1 of assessed property value. The taxes that were collected, along with \$100,000 furnished by the state budget, were to be disbursed to township trustees (via the county commissioners) to pay the dependent families of non-commissioned soldiers (defined as officers, musicians or privates) who had been wounded, disabled or killed. The soldier's wife or dependent mother was to receive \$8 per month, while a child under the age of 12 was to receive \$2 per month. If the child had no mother living, they were to receive \$4 per month. If the soldier's child was over the age of 12 but was insane or an invalid, they were to be paid as if they were under the age of 12.

To determine who would be eligible for this payment, the township assessors in each county were to make an enumeration and return it to the county auditor. The 1865 enumeration was to be completed as soon as possible; the 1866 enumeration was due before the 4th Monday in May 1866. When enumerating the families, the township assessor was to make note of how many dependents, and include the sex and age of each child under age 12.

The township trustees were to keep track of families who had moved, and were to report to the county commissioners on the 1st Tuesday of April and October on how the funds had been disbursed.

This law was short-lived - in the fall of 1865, the legislature returned to meet in special session, and in December 1865 they repealed this law (Acts of 1865, special session, Chapter 7). However, they ordered the taxes that had already been collected in 1865 to be disbursed as if the law were still in effect. The township trustees were to end all their disbursements on March 3, 1866, and the county treasurer was to pay

back the state 5% of the taxes they had collected in 1865. Any money the counties had left over after March 1866 was to be used by the county commissioners to first help any disabled non-commissioned soldiers, and then second, the soldiers' wives, dependent mothers and children.

Look in the records of the county assessor, county auditor, county commissioners or township trustees for evidence of this special property tax, as well as the 1865 enumeration of soldiers' families.

Legal Terms Explained: Nil Dicit

Nil dicit (or nihil dicit) is a Latin phrase meaning "he says nothing." This term may be found in civil court cases, if the defendant does not answer the plaintiff's complaint. The judge then issues a judgment against the defendant by default.

Latin Terms Used in Genealogy

GenealogyInTime Magazine has a listing of [Latin terms and abbreviations](#) that you may come across in genealogy records.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to mere_thom@runbox.com by webmaster@indgensoc.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc. | P.O. Box 10507 | Fort Wayne | IN | 46852