

David
Writings from ~~David~~ Simon in Canada

In the year of 1868 some 50 or 55 families landed in Chariton Iowa in South Central part of the State that being the end of the E. P. R. Railroad at that time in the month of Oct the had sent a man ahead the previous spring to have a place ready for them to camp in and to their surprise they found only the floor laid to a shack however some boards were gotten and they got busy to get walls and roof over it and raining as it was and quite chilly the were practically all wet and then to go when they all got in there it was more like packed sardines than a bunk house among these families my parents and 7 Brothers and sisters 3 girls 4 Boys one Sister had died at 2 yrs of age my youngest sister was two yrs at that time my father went 2 or three miles to get some milk at an English speaking family not knowing a word of English some how making his wants known while waiting for the same he fainted the only time remembered of him fainting and then the next thing to try and find some place where they could prepare a place to live in as winter was near at hand this was 9 miles from rail road and 5 miles from railroad the opposite was there was a Swede

man living that had learned a little of the language 3 of the men went to hunt him and he located some land 5 miles from R. P. and built a small house all the families had children and the 3 families lived there together around one stove for over two years after two years I arrived to increase the number however when I was 6 months old my father had succeeded to get a house of our own while my parents did not have any material wealth the had put their trust in the Lord and that is better than earthly riches the children can

very little understand what it is to
them to have Christian parents thank
God for all of them during my childhood
~~I never had courage to~~ and even in
my youth I never had courage to go
again my parents will in outward
appearance was always considered to
be respectable but God sees the heart
and that needed to be made clean
would say there are secret sins I believe
worse to overcome than gross outward
sins thank God he calls and calls
again and at 18 yrs of age I could not
withstand his calling any longer so
surrendered to him my mother asked
me one evening if I did not want
her to pray with me and we next morn-
ing did not get peace then but could
not sleep before light came in I prayed
that I would get some sign of that my
sins were forgiven all answered I got was
my grace is sufficient for thee I felt
on praying no other answer the third time
I got that answer my burden fell
off and I was a new creation in Christ
Jesus O how I rejoiced but the devil
does not like that he starts war against
the soul and many a time I have layd
slain but if we confess our sins to him
he is just and faithful to forgive
our sins and cleanse us from all
unrighteousness. O if we always would
go to God's word and hearken to it in
time of temptation how much anguish
and grief we would spare us but thanks
to God he does not leave us but he follows
us with his loving mercy at 23 yrs of age
I was married in marriage to Hanna of Scotland
England we took our abode on my father's farm
and resided there 13 yrs during this time we
was blessed with 8 children in 1906 we
left my old childhood home and moved
to Canada and made our home in a new
settled district stuck up a tent to live in
started to work and prepare a home, off to
the timber with ax and saw to cut logs
to build with the R R was 25 miles away
and no roads and not much money to buy
lumber for in the month of August we left
the tent and moved in our first house