

TUSCANIA

Tuscania casualty
Brown, Benjamin Harrison
1894 WI – 5 February 1918 Tuscania



Sgt. Ben Brown after his marriage to Marie Alberta Peterson of Barron and shortly before his unit moved out for overseas deployment.

Courtesy of John Christeson

Benjamin Harrison Brown – courtesy of Steven Schwartz – and on Find A Grave 7063722

Widow of This U-Boat Victim Resides Here



BENJAMIN H. BROWN.

Another Eau Claire family was robbed of a loved one when the Tuscania was sent down, taking with it Benjamin Harrison Brown of Barron, whose death was announced by the war department Tuesday.

Brown was married to an Eau Claire girl, Miss Marie Peterson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Pet-

erson, 133 Bellevue avenue, last August. Since his enlistment in the war service of Uncle Sam, Mrs. Brown has made her home with her parents and it was there she received the death knell to her hopes that her husband would turn up among the Tuscania survivors when she read the sad news in The Telegram last night.

Previous to his enlistment, Brown was employed as prescription clerk in Stebbins Drug Store at Barron, and it was there that Mrs. Brown met him, she being employed as stenographer at the Bank of Barron. He enlisted July 24 in Company F, Sixth Wisconsin regiment. While at Waco he was transferred to the 107th Supply Train, truck company E.

Besides his wife, he is survived by his mother, three brothers and one sister; all of whom live on a farm near Barron. Mr. Brown was twenty-four years old.

"Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Thursday 28 Feb 1918 p 1



Suresnes, France – memorial plaque – Find A Grave 7063722



Cenotaph (in memory of) as his body was not recovered - Find A Grave 55952352

From Marilyn C. Gahm's "The Sinking of the Tuscania" (www.tuscaniamemorial.org):

Three casualties of the sinking were from Barron County, Wisconsin, which lies south of Washburn County. One was Homer L. Anderson. Another was Benjamin Harrison Brown, a sergeant in Company F, 107th Supply Train. Born in Barron, Barron County, on July 18, 1894, he was the son of George Washington and Catherine (Appleman) Brown. Benjamin married Marie Alberta Peterson on August 26, 1917, and she was expecting their first child when he sailed on the *Tuscania*. Ben died on February 5, 1918, aboard the ship, at age 23; his body was never recovered. Ben's daughter Benjaline Harrison Brown was born May 20, 1918, in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. As the first soldier to die from Barron, he is the namesake of American Legion Post No. 212 at Barron, named the Ben Brown Post when it was organized January 12, 1920. The Barron Legion post was renamed the Brown-Selvig Post #212 in December 1943, to honor Barron's first World War II casualty, Herman E. Selvig, killed at Gaudalcanal.

WWI, WWII, and Korean War Casualty Listings

[View record](#)

Name	Benjamin H. Brown
State Registered	Wisconsin
Death Date	5 Feb 1918
Cemetery	Tablets of the Missing at Suresnes American Cemetery
Cemetery Burial Plot	Action or Buried at Sea
Cemetery City	Suresnes
Cemetery Country	France
War	World War I
Title	Sergeant, U.S. Army
Rank	Sergeant
Service	U.S. Army
Division	107th Supply Trains, 32th Infantry Division
Data Source	World War I Honor Roll

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/65105835/person/270083422306/facts>

BROWN, BENJAMIN HARRISON		X C-	2 072
SGT CO E 107 Sup Tr.		RS-	
1145 Bellevue Ave.,		RH-	
Eau Claire, Wisc.		V-	
Sn.	Died 2/5/18	N-	
Born 7/ /93		K-	
Enl. 7/18/17	Dis.	A- 3 847 054	F
		H-	
		T- 74 649	
		I- 3 813	

VA FORM 3-7202a SEP 1955 Existing stocks of VA Form 3-7202a, Jul 1948, will be used. MASTER INDEX CARD 16-35777-2 GPO ewl

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CS1C-HQCT-F?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPZ6-TP9P&action=view>

Page 4

WISCONSIN		WHITE: ENTERED SERVICE WITH NATIONAL GUARD OR ASSIGNED THEREUPON ENLISTMENT OR INDUCTION.		
<u>NAME</u>	<u>SERIAL NO</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION AT TIME OF DEATH</u>	<u>DATE OF DEATH</u>
Brown, Benjamin Harrison		Sgt	Co H 107 Sup Tn	Feb 5/18

<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C3MW-K92B-Y?view=index&personArk=%2Fark%3A%2F61903%2F1%3A1%3AQPH4-PQD9&action=view>

Life:

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**Wisconsin and Michigan Men on Way
to Battlefield Plunged to Death
by German Sub**

At 2:30 this afternoon a partial list of the missing men from the Tuscania was sent over the wires. They were:

Benjamin H. Brown, sergeant, Barron.

Carl M. Anderson, corporal, Barron.
Claude Buckmaster, corporal, Barron.

E James Karlburn, corporal, Haugen.
Chas. A. Joanis, Washburn.
Arthur Willey, sergeant, Washburn.
Fred H. Caspar, corporal, Washburn.
H. J. Almer Swanson, Mason.
Lee Milton Boyden, Cumberland.
Edward V. Potter, clerk, Owen.
Melville A. Arneson, Private, Abbottsford.

Francis Sermstahl, Colby.
Jacob W. Kramer, Abbottsford.
Newell W. Craig, Owen.

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"Ladysmith (WI) News-Budget" Friday 8 Feb 1918 p 1

Missing In Tuscania Disaster

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Following are the Wisconsin men listed by the war department in the Tuscania disaster:

158TH AERO SQUADRON

Sergeant
Tullington, Bernard L..Phoebus, Wis.

NOT CLASSIFIED

Lewellyn Anderson Cumberland, Wis.
Benjamin Harrison Brown
..... Barron, Wis.
Robert F. LindPoysippe, Wis.
Joseph L. Marsole, Independence, Wis.
Lawrence P. Miller, Hortonville, Wis.
John MitchellKenosha, Wis.
John F. McCutcheon .Washburn, Wis.
George R. RogersDallas, Wis.
Charles E. Swanson..Rothschild, Wis.

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Monday 11 Feb 1918 p 1

1715.
In a supplement list of those who were aboard the Tuscania and who have not been reported as survivors are these names: Homer Liewellyn Anderson, private, Cumberland, Wisconsin; Benjamin Harrison Brown, Sergeant, Barron, Wisconsin; Robert F. Lind, private, Poy Sippi, Wisconsin; John Mitchell, private, Kenosha, Wisconsin; Lawrence P. Miller, corporal, Hortonville, Wisconsin.

"Baraboo (WI) Republic" Thursday 14 Feb 1918 p 10

FIRST OFFICIAL LIST OF TUSCANIA DEAD IS RECEIVED

***It is Made Public and
Includes Names of Six
Wisconsin Men.***

(By International News Service)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 26.—

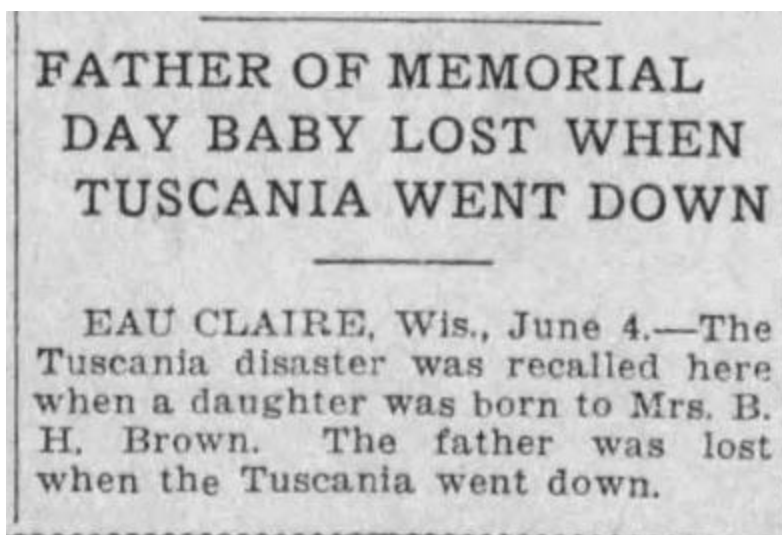
The war department today received the first partial list of those officially reported missing or among the unidentified dead on the Tuscania. It includes the names of Benjamin H. Brown, Barron, Wis.; Alicide Carollo, Lohrville, Wis.; Arthur C. Junker, Kenosha, Wis.; Frank Sarpe, Milwaukee, Wis.; William B. Spencer, New London, Wis.; and Earl Wesenberger, of Jim Falls, Wis.

"Neenah (WI) Daily Times" Thursday 26 Feb 1918 p 1

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/445016060/>

EAU CLAIRE — The Tuscania disaster was recalled here this week when Mrs. B. H. Brown of this city gave birth to a daughter. The little tot's daddy was lost when the ship went down.

The birth of his daughter 4 months after his death - "Madison (WI) Capital Times" 3 Jun 1918 p 8



"Tulsa (OK) Weekly Democrat" Thursday 6 Jun 1918 p 1

Wife:



Marie Alberta Peterson Brown Christeson – Find A Grave 7063699

U.S., Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Church Records, 1781-1969 for Benjamin Harrison Brown			
Congregational Records > Wisconsin > Barron > Barron Lutheran			
3	26 august	Benjamin Harrison Brown	24
		Marie Alberta Peterson	22
Wisconsin	R. A. Johnston Pastor		
Wisconsin	A. J. Wilson		

https://www.ancestry.com/imageviewer/collections/60722/images/41742_315040-00315?pld=4923457

MARRIAGE LICENSES	
Norman W. Pearson, 29;	Minnie H. Badger, 17.
Peter Paulson, 46;	Kathrn Hoffman, 45.
Jack M. Atkins, legal;	Constance V. Kimmel,
legal,	
Orville B. Hall, 21;	Leone Perry, 20.
Walter L. Kelly, 35;	Agnes Nilson, 26.
Joseph Lazarz, 21;	Anna Mazurko, 18.
Clifford L. Christeson, 33;	Marie Brown, 30.

"Minneapolis (MN) Journal" Saturday 6 Mar 1926 p 7

Golden Wedding Celebration is Held on Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Peterson, 1145 Bellevue avenue, celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary on Sunday, July 27, with an Open House from 3 to 5 p.m.

A family dinner was held at noon with all the children and their families present except one son, Palmer of Chicago, who was unable to attend, and one grandchild, Mrs. John Kent McCready of Beverly Hills, nee Ruth N. Borg, who was recently married at Chula Vista, Cal. There were 26 persons at the dinner.

The home was beautifully decorated with a profusion of floral gifts, expressing the esteem and affection of their many friends and neighbors. A purse of money and gold gifts were also received.

Mr. Peterson was born Feb. 15, 1865 at Sjunken, Roevig in Salten, Norway, and Mrs. Peterson was born in Langenes, Vesteraalen, Norway, on April 13, 1869. They were married in 1891 at Sjunken, Norway, and came to the United States two years later and settled in Eau Claire. Mr. Peterson retired from the machinist trade recently due to ill health. He has contributed much of his musical talent to the Norden lodge where he has been a member of the Grieg's Male Chorus for many years.

The Petersons have eight children living, four girls and four boys. They are: Mrs. John Borg, Chula Vista, Cal.; Mrs. Clifford Christenson, Barron; Palmer Peterson, Chicago; Mrs. Stanley B. Lockwood, Mondovi; Mrs. James Skogstad, Madison; Joseph I. Peterson, Ladysmith, and Arthur and Harold of Eau Claire. There are 12 grandchildren.

"Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Saturday 2 Aug 1941 p 4

Marie Christeson

BARRON (Special) — Marie Christeson, 72, Rt. 2, Barron, died Sunday at the Barron Memorial Hospital. She was born in Eau Claire Feb. 19, 1896 and married Clifford Christeson March 5, 1926 at Minneapolis.

She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary and Rebekkah Lodge No. 54. Funeral services were held Thursday at the First Lutheran Church with the Rev. C. P. Thronson officiating. Burial was in the Wayside cemetery.

She is survived by her husband; two daughters, Mrs. Rodolf Bunkfelt, Villa Park, Ill.; Mrs. Morton Grossman, Silver Springs, Md.; two sons, four brothers, Art Peterson, Eau Claire; Palmer Peterson, New Jersey; Joseph Peterson, Mondovi; Harold Peterson, Fargo, N.D.; two sisters, Mrs. Stanley Lockwood, Mondovi; Mrs. John Borg, Chula Vista, Calif.; 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

"Eau Claire (WI) Daily Telegram" Saturday 28 Jan 1967 p 16

Daughter:



Benjaline Harrison Brown Bunkfeldt (1920-2005) – Find A Grave 9191487

Benjaline Brown of Milwaukee
is visiting her grand parents, Mr.
and Mrs. John W. Peterson, here
for two weeks.

"Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Sunday 11 Jun 1926 p 7

Records

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Gerald G. Vogel, 433 W. Mifflin st., and Ruth B. Puddester, 532 W. Mifflin st.

Robert S. Burdick, 103 Rosemary ave., and Ruth L. Boone, 2663 E. Johnson st.

Rudolf Bunkfeldt, 1315 Madison ave., and Benjaline H. Brown, 222 N. Orchard st.

Joseph J. Dollak, Marshall; and Adeline M. Yelk, Marshall.

William H. Tucker, 117 S. Randall ave., and Eva B. Dennison, 1806 Summit ave.

Wesley E. Meyer, Spring Green, and Laura May Pitt, Shorewood Hills.

Edward F. Westphal, Milwaukee; and Marie E. Wagner, 1416 E. Washington ave.

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Friday 4 Oct 1940 p 17

Marriage Announced



MRS. RUDOLF BUNKFELDT

In the simplest of ceremonies, Miss Benjaline Brown, 222 N. Orchard st., daughter of Mrs. Clifford Christeson Barron, Wis., became the bride of Rudolf Bunkfeldt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bunkfeldt, Milwaukee, Saturday at 2 p. m. at the summer home of the bridegroom's parents at Elkhart lake. Only the immediate families witnessed the nuptial service. The bride is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin school of nursing and at present is a member of the nursing staff at Wisconsin General hospital. Mr. Bunkfeldt, who received his M. S. degree in biochemistry at the university in 1939, is a research assistant at the university. (Fritz Kaeser photo).

"Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) Tuesday 15 Oct 1940 p 10

Bunkfeldt

Rudolf, age 85, born June 6, 1916 in Milwaukee, passed away November 17, 2001, in New Hope. Rudy graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1937. He received his Master's degree in Organic Chemistry and received his Doctorate in Biochemistry in 1943. He married Benjaline Brown in 1940 and they were married for 61 years. He was Director of Research for Ovaltine in Illinois, later Associate Director of Research for Borden's Foods in Syracuse, NY. He is survived by his wife, Benjaline; children, Carol (Owen) Phairis, Jean (Kurt) Rose and John Bunkfeldt; grandchildren, Laura, Christine, Owen IV, J.R.; great-grandchildren, Rachel, Hannah, D.J., Rosie and Maggie. He will be lovingly remembered as a good husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather and for his fun-loving sense of humor. Private services will be held.

Services will be held. Memorials may be directed to Calvary Lutheran Pre-K, Calvary Lutheran Church, 7520 Golden Valley Rd, Golden Valley, MN 55427.

Washburn McReavey
Robbinsdale Chapel
763-537-2333

"Minneapolis (MN) Star Tribune" Monday 19 Nov 2001 p 24

Bunkfeldt

Benjaline Harrison (nee Brown), age 87. Born May 20, 1918 in Eau Claire, WI, died Sept. 4, 2005. She graduated from Barron, WI high-school in 1935. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin School of Nursing in 1939. She married Rudolf Bunkfeldt in 1940. "Benny" will always be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and her love of music. Almost everyone who knew her shared in her love for the piano. "Benny" was preceded in death by her husband of 61 years, Rudolf. Survived by her 3 children, Carol (Owen) Pharris, Jean (Kurt) Rose, and John; also grandchildren, Laura (Pat), Christine (Dwight), Owen IV, J.R.; her great-grandchildren, Rachel (Adam), Hannah, D.J., Rosie, Maggie; and her great-great-grandson, Austin; also survived by siblings, Howard (Patti), John (Janet), and Elaine. Private service to be held in Barron, Wisconsin. Memorials preferred to CALVARY CAMPSHIP, Calvary Lutheran Church, 7520 Golden Valley Rd, Golden Valley, MN 55427.
Washburn-McReavy
Robbinsdale Chapel
4239 W. Broadway
763-537-2333

"Minneapolis (MN) Star Tribune" Wednesday 7 Sep 2005 p B6

Father:



George Washington Brown, at left with wife Catherine (Kate) Appleman, in back: Mina Brown, George & Lizzie Hughes – Find A Grave 7072849

GEORGE BROWN

Another Vernon county veteran of the Civil war was mustered out in the passing of George Brown at Barron, this state, which happened a few days since. The deceased was an old resident of Webster town, coming here in early life from Ohio. He married Abigail Adams, a member of one of the old families of that section, who died in early life, and later married a sister of Jake Appleman of Salem Ridge. His widow and children from both marriages survive. He had lived in Barron county about thirty years, was well up in the eighties, and was an uncle of Mrs. J. W. Brown of this city. Mrs. Jake Appleman, a daughter by the first marriage is the only one of the family near here. Mr. and Mrs. Appleman were at Barron to attend the funeral.

"Vernon County Censor" (Viroqua WI) Wednesday 3 Mar 1915 p 4

Mother:

Samuel Wilds

in the Ohio, U.S., County Marriage Records, 1774-1993



[Add or update information](#)

[Report a problem](#)

Detail

Source

Name	Samuel Wilds
Gender	Male
Marriage Date	19 Mar 1867
Marriage Place	Perry, Ohio, USA
Spouse	Catherine Appleton
Film Number	000910670

State of Ohio, Perry County, ss:

March 15th A.D. 1867

Marriage License

Was this day granted to

Samuel Wilds

and

Catherine Appleton

R. E. Huston

Probate Judge.

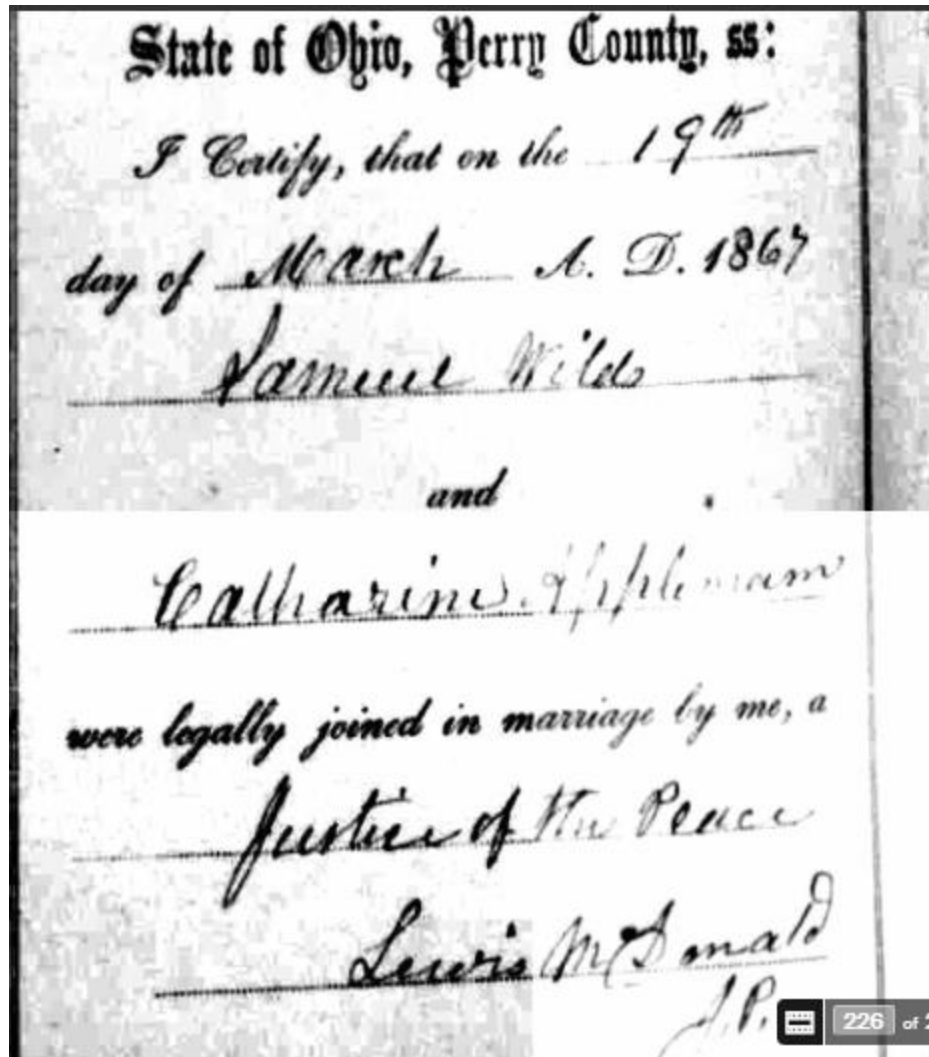
Personally came Samuel Wilds
 applying for License for Himself
 to be married to Miss Catherine Appleton
 who being sworn, says that the said Affiant
 is over the age of twenty-one years,
 and is unmarried, that the said Catherine
 Appleton is over the age of eighteen years,
 and is unmarried, resides in Perry County, and that he
 knows of no legal impediment to said marriage.

Samuel Wilds

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 15th
 day of March A. D. 1867

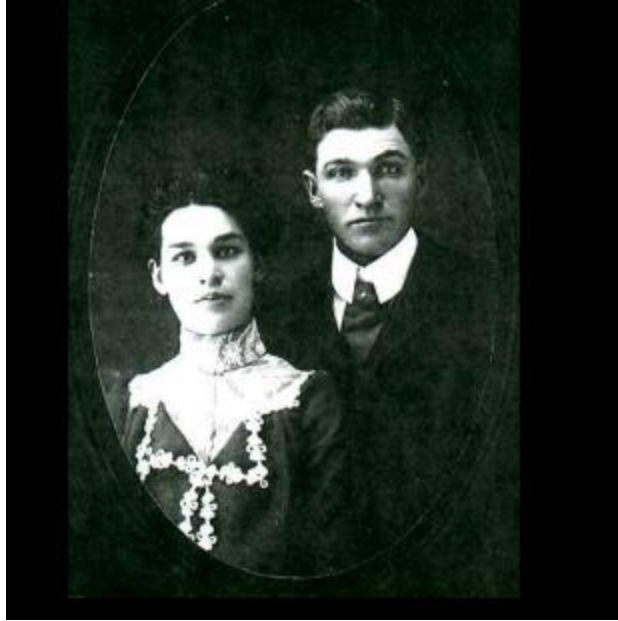
R. E. Huston

Probate Judge.



<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1813150:61378?tid=65105835&pid=270083421745&queryid=fda1bcf6-8965-481b-89ed-d60f997a1778&phsrc=cPx21836&phstart=successSource>

Siblings:



Brother Jacob Robert Brown (1874-1941) on his wedding day, with Selmina Hughes – Find A Grave 7235558

Obituary: Barron Farmer Dies Of Injuries. Was Holding Lantern for Auto Without Headlights. Jacob R. Brown, 67, Barron Township farmer died last Saturday at the Barron Hospital from injuries sustained in an accident Sept. 27. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at the home. Burial was in Wayside cemetery. Mr. Brown, who lives a mile west of Barron, was walking to town Sept. 27. On his way home he was picked up by Arthur Bagley, a neighboring farmer. A short distance out of the city the car lights went out. Mr. Brown, who had been carrying a lantern, climbed onto the running-board to light the road. The car hit a rough spot on the highway. Mr. Brown was thrown from his precarious position and landed in the ditch. His head struck a rock and he was knocked unconscious. His skull was fractured and his right collar bone injured. Mr. Brown never regained consciousness. Mr. Brown is survived by his wife, Selma. He had lived in Barron county many years.

MARRIED Mr. J. R. Brown and Miss Selmina Hughes of the town of Clinton were married at the M. E. Parsonage of this city on Wednesday afternoon. The contracting parties are prominent and popular young people of Clinton. The Shield joins their many friends in extending congratulations. [Barron County Shield, Barron, Wis., Friday, Dec. 10, 1903]

Barron

Jacob R. Brown, who was injured when he fell from the running board of an automobile, the night of Sept. 27, succumbed to his injuries at the Barron City hospital, Saturday evening.

Mr. Brown, a town of Barron farmer, living about a mile west of the city of Barron, had walked to town to shop. On his way home he was picked up by Arthur Bagley, a neighboring farmer, going in the same direction in an automobile. Shortly after leaving the city limits, the lights on the car went out. Brown, who carried a lantern, got out on the running board of the car to light the road. A rough spot on the highway polted him from his perch and he was thrown into a ditch, striking his head against a rock, and knocking him unconscious.

When brought to the Barron City hospital it was discovered that his skull was fractured and his right collar bone badly injured. He never regained consciousness.

Jacob Robert Brown, was born in Vernon county, Wis., Feb. 18, 1874, on a farm. As a young man he came to Barron county, locating on the 120-acre farm west of Barron which he owned at the time of his death. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Selma Brown.

Funeral services will be held from the home, Wednesday afternoon, and burial in Wayside cemetery.

"Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" Thursday 9 Oct 1941 p 21

Find A Grave 7235558

Obituary: The people of this city were shocked to learn last Sunday evening that Sherman Brown, son of G.W. Brown, a prominent farmer of the town of Clinton, had been drowned that afternoon about 6 o'clock at Sweeny's pond. The young man, in company with a number of the boys of his neighborhood, had been over in the Forey neighborhood playing ball in the afternoon, and were returning home by the way of Sweeny's pond with the intention of taking a swim there, but finding some women fishing there could not do so. The boys joshed one another about going in with their clothes on and finally young Brown jumped in and swam across the hole below the dam. It was shortly noticed that he acted strangely, having been seized with cramps, but nothing was thought of it until he went under once. When he came up he called for help and his companions hastened to assist him. Jas. Quam, one of those present was the first to reach him and tried to pull him out, but he found Brown too heavy and was himself rescued by the aid of a fish pole. Another young man named St. Clair also tried to save Brown, but was unable to do so. After going down the second time Brown did not come up, and his rescuers had very little time to do anything for him. The body was not recovered till after midnight.

Brother William Sherman Brown (1875-1897) – Find A Grave 7235519

Wisconsin Births, 1820-1907

[View record](#)

Name	Mary J Brown
Birth Date	23 Sep 1877
Birth Place	Vernon, Wisconsin, USA
Reel	0323
Record Number	DX0776

Sister Mary Jane Brown Forry (1877-) - <https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/65105835/person/270083455985/facts>

FOR RENT—Five-room modern house on Reece Ave., 5 doors west from Young St. Apply Frank Forry, cor. of Williams and Hope Slough Rd. 24

“Chilliwack (British Columbia, Canada) Progress” Thursday 6 Apr 1922 p 5

Mr. and Mrs. Forry and four children of Washington are spending a few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Forry before they leave for the Prairie.

“Chilliwack (British Columbia, Canada) Progress” Wednesday 18 Jun 1924 p 8

Mr. Frank Forry and family left on Tuesday for Bateman, Sask., where they expect to make their home for some time. The family have been residents here for the past five years and look forward to returning to Chilliwack within a few years.

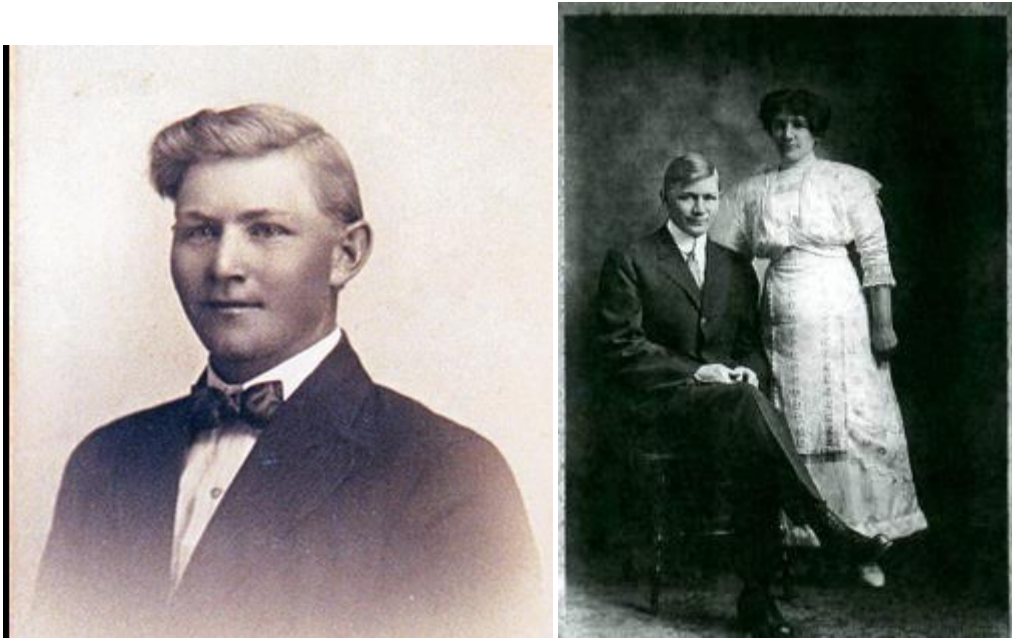
"Chilliwack (British Columbia, Canada) Progress" Wednesday 13 Aug 1924 p 8

Mr. Robt. Graham has received a letter from Mr. Frank Forry of Bateman, Sask., who returned to the prairies from Fairfield Island last year, stating that he has harvested a 6,387 bushel wheat crop this season. His average, he states, is over twenty-one bushels to the acre.

"Chilliwack (British Columbia, Canada) Progress" Wednesday 30 Sep 1925 p 5

(Special Despatch)
BATEMAN, Sask., Dec. 19.—Florence Forry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Forry, is now in the Regina hospital where she is taking special medical treatment.

"Regina (Saskatchewan, Canada) Leader-Post" Friday 20 Dec 1929 p 18



Brother James Thomas Brown (1891-1974) – Find A Grave 7237064

Iowa, Marriage Records, 1923-1937

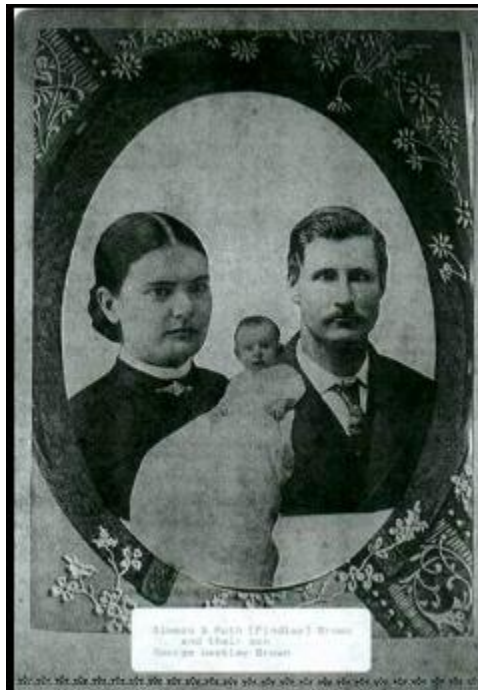
 [View image](#)

[View record](#)

Name	James Thomas
Gender	Male
Race	Caucasian (White)
Age	23
Birth Date	abt 1891
Birth Place	Barron Wis
Marriage Date	16 Feb 1914
Marriage Place	Wright, Iowa, USA
Father	George W Brown
Mother	Catherine Appleman
Spouse	Mary Jane Claude
Volume Number	456 (Sac - Wright)

<https://www.ancestry.com/family-tree/person/tree/65105835/person/270083454708/facts>

Half-siblings – by his father's 1st marriage, to Abigail Adams



Half-brother Simeon Brown (1861-1921) with 1st wife Ruth Eliza Findley & photo of their only child, George Westley Brown (1889-1894) superimposed – Find A Grave 7073017



*Caption: Standing: Nettie Appleman, Simeon's daughter Margaret Ellen Brown, his daughter Laura Mable Brown, son Myron Lee Brown, Esther Brown – seated: Eva (Knowlton) Brown, Simeon Brown with unknown girl, Mina (Mrs. Jake) Brown
Simeon's second wife Eva Asenetha Knowlton & their children – Find A Grave 7073017*

Obituary—Mrs. Jacob Appleman

Mrs. Jacob Appleman died at her home on Salem Ridge at 7:15 o'clock last Thursday evening, February 21, 1924, following an illness of long duration. Funeral services were held at Salem church conducted by her pastor, Rev. E. P. Stone, assisted by Rev. A. V. Ingham, Supt. of the La-Crosse district of the Methodist Episcopal church. The body was laid to rest in the family lot in Salem Ridge cemetery in the presence of sorrowing relatives and friends.

Mary Elizabeth Brown was born June 5, 1859, in the town of Viroqua, Vernon county, Wis. Her mother died when she was but eight years old and for a year she made her home with an uncle, and then, at the tender age of nine, she took up the task of housekeeping for her father and brothers.

She was married March 19, 1874, to Jacob Appleman, and had she lived one month longer they could have celebrated their golden anniversary. To this union was born nine children: Mordecia, Simeon, Lutitia, Abigail, Bertha, Nettie, Lucy, Amy and Goodsell. All of these were present at her funeral except Simeon, who passed away in Spokane, Wash., Dec. 24, 1912, and Lucy, who departed this life at the old home Dec. 25, 1918. None but a mother can know the responsibility of bringing up a large family of children. Many times the deceased worked until 3 o'clock in the morning doing the sewing necessary in so large a family and then up again in the morning early for another day's labor. During the greater part of her married life the finances of the family were limited, requiring the strictest economy on her part, many times doing without the real necessities that her children might not suffer, as did many pioneer mothers.

She and her husband moved onto the farm where the family are still living in 1878, where in 1882 the old log cabin was replaced by the residence in which they have since lived, having spent 46 years on this one place.

Mrs. Appleman was taken ill in April 1916 and was never in her usual health thereafter. She had a slight stroke of paralysis Dec. 29, 1918, from which she soon recovered, but had another stroke Oct. 15, 1919, and was never able to walk again and for nearly three months was deprived of speech, which she later regained to some extent. The last severe illness began Nov. 9th, last. She failed gradually from that time and on Feb. 4th was attacked with gangrene, causing her intense suffering for several days. During the last few weeks she often expressed the wish to be taken to the home above where there is no more pain and suffering. Her suffering grew less intense during the last few days. She became a member of the Methodist church when a child and remained a faithful worker until her death. She was untiring in her good deeds, not only for the church but in any cause that seemed for the good of humanity. If there was a case of sickness in the

neighborhood she found time among her other duties to do her share of the necessary service, and even in her last sickness she constantly thought of others.

Thus closes a life of much sacrifice and suffering, but also one of sweetness and gentleness to others.

Half-sister Margaret Elizabeth Brown Appleman (1859-1924) – "La Farge (WI) Enterprise" Thursday 25 Feb 1924 p 4

Half-siblings: by his mother's 1st marriage to Samuel E. Wildes:


No. 2 **01078**

1. Full name of husband,	Charles G. Wilder
2. Name of the father of husband,	Samuel "
3. Name of mother of husband before marriage,	Katharina Apples
4. Occupation of husband,	Farmer
5. Residence of husband,	Barron Wis
6. Birthplace of husband,	Ohio
7. Full name of wife previous to marriage,	Mrs Mary Basenach
8. Name of the father of wife,	Patrick Maldon
9. Name of the mother of wife before marriage,	Margaret Smith
10. Birthplace of wife,	Portage Wis
11. The color of the parties,	White
12. No. and date of license,	no - July 3 - 05
13. Time when marriage was contracted,	July 15 - 1905
14. The place, town or township, and county where marriage was contracted,	Barron, Barron Co Wis
15. By what ceremony contracted,	Lutheran
16. Names of officiating witnesses,	Mrs Mennie Rippert Frank Naser
17. Name of person pronouncing marriage,	H. A. Erickson
18. Residence of person last named,	Nindom Minn
19. Date of certificate or affidavit of marriage,	July 15 - 1905
20. Date of registration,	July 21 - 1905

Half-brother Charles Alfred Wildes (1887-1948) - <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/91673537%3A61484>

Mary Caldron

in the Wisconsin, U.S., Compiled Marriages for Select Counties, 1835-1900



Detail	Source
Name	Mary Caldron
Gender	Female
Marriage Date	3 Dec 1882
Marriage Place	Monroe, Wisconsin, USA
Spouse	Joseph Basenach

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/90024016%3A5230>


BASENACH—Miss Anna M., 42, **Barron**, died recently. She was born at **Barron** and had been an invalid since infancy.

Daughter of Mary Caldon Basenach – “Wausau (WI) Daily Herald” Monday 12 Dec 1932 p

11

Mary T. Wildes

in the Wisconsin, U.S., Death Records, 1872-2004



Detail	Source
Name	Mary T. Wildes
Death Date	19 Jan 1986
Death County	Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA

<https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/1047293:61483?tid=&pid=&queryid=13dbfa07-2bab-422f-a6fa-a105055ebae2&phsrc=cPx21856&phstart=successSource>



Half-sister Sarah Elizabeth Wildes Hanchett (1869-1940) – Find A Grave 145393884

Abbreviations:

b = born

d = died

F: = Find A Grave (www.findagrave.org)

NOK = next-of-kin

Name: Benjamin Harrison Brown

Name variations:

Military:

On Tuscania: 107th Supply Co. E - sergeant

Serial number: not assigned to WWI enlisted men until after the sinking of the Tuscania showed their value, so Benjamin died without a serial number

Entered service from: Barron, Barron WI

Sailed on "Tuscania" as: Benjamin Harrison Brown

Next-of-kin on "Tuscania": brother J.R. Brown, Barron WI

World War I draft registration (1917): as Benjiman [sic] Brown - b. 18 Jul 1893 Clinton WI; res: Barron, Barron WI. Single. Drug clerk, A.P. Stebbins, Barron WI. Medium height & build. He signs the card as B.H. Brown. The "B.H." is crossed through & Benj. Added.

Veterans Administration Military Index:

Enlisted 18 Jul 1917

Born Jul 1893

Date of death: 5 Feb 1918

Address: 1145 Bellevue Ave., Eau Claire WI

Rank/unit: sergeant, Co. E, 107th Supply Train

Birth & death:

Born: 18 Jul 1894 Barron, Barron WI (WWI draft card: 1893)

Died: 5 Feb 1918 Tuscania - lost at sea, missing in action – body not recovered [the Isle of Islay notation on his Find A Grave record is incorrect.

Benjamin has two Find A Grave records:

Plaque location: Suresnes American Cemetery & Memorial, Suresnes, Departement des Hauts-de-Seine, Ile-de-France, France, on the plaques of the missing

Find A Grave record: 55952352 (France) - presence on Tuscania noted in flower

Memorial plaque location: Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI.

Find A Grave record: 7063722 - presence on Tuscania noted in text

Barron Cemetery cenotaph: Lost – Sinking of Tuscania Feb. 5, 1918

Father: George Washington Brown, 8 Jul 1832 Morgan County or Perry County OH – 21 Feb 1915 Barron, Barron WI.

Son of James Brown & Mary Ann Pallas Kreiger or Jonathan Brown & Margaret Leadbetter [family trees differ]

Civil War veteran.

His 1st wife was Abigail Adams Brown (1826 OH – 1867 WI, F: 7972160), buried in Avalanche WI, whom he married 19 Nov 1855 in Vernon Co. WI. She is listed as the daughter of James (Jonathan) Adams & Sarah Margaret Longstreth.

They had 5 children, only 2 of whom survived infancy. Abigail died 7 days after the birth of their last child, a girl who died on the day of her birth.

Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI next to his 2nd wife, Catherine Appleman Brown.

Find A Grave: 7072849

Mother: Catherine (“Kate”) Appleman Wildes Brown, 15 Jun 1847 Jackson township, Vinton Co. OH – 26 Jan 1931 Barron, Barron WI.

Daughter of James Appleman & Sarah Chamberland (Chamberlain). Her brother Jacob Appleman married her stepdaughter, Margaret Brown.

Died at the home of her son, Jacob Brown, in Barron WI.

Married her 1st husband, Samuel E. Wildes (17 Mar 1842 Perry Co. OH – 3 Mar 1917 Sandusky, Erie OH, F: 15662276), the son of James & Permelia Wildes), on 19 Mar 1867 in Perry Co. OH. He had served in the Civil War for 100 days (1864-1865). They separated in the latter part of 1869 & she traveled with her parents by horse & wagon to Vernon Co. WI. On **2 or 3 Nov 1874**, Catherine & Samuel were divorced in Hocking Co. OH. They had 2 children. A few days later – on 9 Nov 1874, Samuel married Mary Elizabeth Shafer Carnes in Hocking Co. OH.

If the divorce date is correct, Catherine married in WI before being divorced in OH.

Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI.

Find A Grave: 7072862

Parents' marriage: 19 Nov 1872 in Clinton, Vernon WI

Spouse: Marie Alberta Peterson Brown Christeson, 19 [15 in obituary text] Feb 1895 Eau Claire, Eau Claire WI – 22 Jan 1967 Barron, Barron WI.

Daughter of Johan Wilhelm Peterson & Inger Marie Kristine Madsen.

Widowed, Marie Brown married 5 Mar 1926 in Minneapolis, Hennepin MN to Clifford Lloyd Christeson. Clifford was born 22 Apr 1892 in Barron, Barron WI & died 1 Nov 1972 in Barron, Barron WI. He was the son of Simon Christeson & Amelia Anise Moffat. He is buried with Marie in Barron Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI, F: 7063694. They had 3 children: Howard Henry Christeson (1926), Elaine Marie Christeson (1927) & John Joseph Christeson (1930).

Obituary: "Eau Claire (WI) Leader-Telegram" 28 Jan 1967 p 2 – d. at age 72, at Barron Memorial Hospital.

Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI.

Spouse Find A Grave: 7063699

Marriage: 26 Aug 1917 at Barron, Barron WI in Barron Lutheran Church, to Benjamin Harrison Brown.

Child:

- Benjaline Harrison (Benny) Brown Bunkfeldt, born posthumously, on 20 May 1918 Eau Claire, Eau Claire WI (almost 4 months after her father died) – 4 Sep 2005 New Hope, Hennepin MN. - Married Rudolf Bunkfeldt (1916-2001) on 12 Oct 1940. - Graduate of Barron High School (1935) & U of WI School of Nursing 1939. – Married Rudolph (Rudy) Bunkfeldt (1916-2001, F: 7063733) in 1940 at Elkhart Lake, Sheboygan WI. Wedding: "Wisconsin State Journal" (Madison WI) 15 Oct 1940 p 10 – photo – "in the simplest of ceremonies" Miss Benjaline Brown, 222 N. Orchard St., daughter of Mrs. Clifford Christeson, Barron WI, married Rudolf Bunkfeldt, son of Mr. & Mrs. Frederick Bunkfeldt of Milwaukee WI, on 12 Oct 1940 at the summer home of the groom's parents at Elkhart Lake. Only the immediate family attended. She is a graduate of the U of WI school of nursing & currently on the nursing staff at WI General Hospital. Rudolf, who received his M.S. degree in biochemistry from the U of WI in 1939, is a research assistant at the University. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 9191487

Full siblings: (from the marriage of his father George to his mother Catherine):

- Jacob Robert Brown, 18 Feb 1874 Viroqua, Vernon WI – 4 Oct 1941 Barron, Barron WI. – Married on 9 Dec 1904 in Barron, Barron WI to Selmina Hughes. Jacob was walking to town on 27 Sep 1941 when he was picked up by Arthur Bagley in his car. When the car lights went out, Jacob stood on the running board & held up a lantern. When the car hit a bump, Jacob fell off, hit his head & never regained

consciousness. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7235558

- William Sherman Brown, 10 Aug 1875 Barron Co. WI – 13 Jun 1897 Barron Co. WI. Some young men had been playing ball & went to Sweeney's pond to take a swim (which at that time would have been done naked). Seeing women fishing there, the men joshed about swimming with their clothes on & William jumped in & swam across the hole below the dam. He began acting oddly, which was due to cramps & he went under. Two friends tried to save him but this was difficult with his water-soaked clothing. He did not surface after going down a 2nd time. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7235519
- Mary Jane ("Molly") Brown Forry, 23 Sep 1877 Viroqua, Vernon WI – 10 Aug 1966 Vernon, North Okanagan Regional District, British Columbia, Canada. - Married Frank William Forry (1874-1952, F: 33952312) on 18 Apr 1897 in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Clinton, Barron WI. - Offered land to homestead in Saskatchewan, they moved there in Jul 1908, to Copper, Saskatchewan. Lived in Bateman, Saskatchewan, Canada, then moved to British Columbia, Canada. – Frank & Molly had 9 children – 5 of them born in WI, 3 born in Saskatchewan & 1 born in British Columbia. - Buried in Vernon Cemetery, Vernon, North Okanagan Regional District, British Columbia, Canada. F: 33952628
- Nancy M. Brown, 20 Mar 1879 Barron Co. WI – 14 Jun 1888 Barron Co. WI. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7235535
- James Thomas (Tom) Brown, 11 Mar 1891 Arland, Barron WI – 18 Jul 1974. About 1913 married Mary Jane Claude (1893-1959, F: 7237088) on 16 Feb 1914 in Wright Co. IA. They had 7 children. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7237064

Half-siblings (from his father's 1st marriage, to Abigail Adams):

- John McHenry Brown, 10 Mar 1857 Viroqua, Vernon [then identified as Bad Ax Co.] WI – 20 Sep 1862 Viroqua, Vernon WI. Buried in Salem Ridge Cemetery, Avalanche, Vernon WI. F: 7242924
- Margaret Elizabeth Brown Appleman, 5 Jun 1859 Viroqua, Vernon WI – 21 Feb 1924 Avalanche, Vernon WI. Wife of Jacob Appleman (1853-1950, F: 7907369) whom she married 19 or 29 Mar 1874 in Vernon Co. WI. Jacob's sister Caroline Appleman Wildes became the 2nd wife of Margaret Brown's father, George Washington Brown. Jacob and Caroline were the children of James Appleman & Sarah Chamberland (Chamberlain). – In her obituary It says Margaret died at her home on Salem Ridge after a long illness. Her mother died when Margaret was 8 & she went to live with an uncle, but then returned to her home & became to homemaker for her father & brothers. She died 1 month shy of her 50th wedding anniversary. Margaret & Jacob had 9 children, 7 of whom survived her & were present at her deathbed. She took ill in Apr 1916 – had a stroke on 29 Dec 1918 – had a 2nd stroke on 15 Oct 1919 (after which she could not walk) – developed an illness 9 Nov 1923 – and gangrene on 4 Feb 1924. - Buried in Salem Ridge Cemetery, Avalanche, Vernon WI. F: 7242938

- Simeon Brown, 6 Nov 1861 Viroqua, Vernon WI – 27 Apr 1921 Barron, Barron WI. Married Jun 1887 to Ruth Eliza Findley (1868-28 Dec 1890, F: 7073041). Their son George Westley Brown lived 1889-1894. – Married Eva (Evangeline) Asenetha Knowlton (1871-1946, F: 7234535) on 27 Jul 1898; they had 5 children. - Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7073017
- Boy Brown, 5 May 1866, Avalanche, Vernon WI – 6 May 1866 Avalanche, Barron WI. Buried in Salem Ridge Cemetery, Avalanche, Vernon WI. F: 86921274
- Girl Brown, born & died 9 Nov 1867 Avalanche, Vernon WI. Her mother Abigail Adams Brown died 7 days later. Buried in Salem Ridge Cemetery, Avalanche, Vernon WI. F: 86921291

Half-siblings (from his mother's 1st marriage, to Samuel E. Wildes):

- Charles Alfred. Wildes, 15 Feb 1867 Straitsville, Perry OH – 12 Nov 1948 Barron, Barron WI. – Married 25 Nov 1896 in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Barron, Barron WI. To Mrs. Adeline (Addy) M. Edgerton McDonald (1859 CT – 1903 WI, F: 107297069), the daughter of Newell P. Edgerton & Lucilia Griffin. Addy had married Charles H. McDonald (1844 NY – 1892 WI, F: 107296995). – Married 15 Jul 1905 in Barron, Barron WI to Mrs. Mary Caldon Bassenach, the daughter of Patrick Caldon & Margaret Smith. Mary Caldon was born in Portage WI. She had married Joseph A. Basenach (Bassenach) on 3 Dec 1882 in Monroe Co. WI. He was the son of Peter Basenach (1824-1900, F: 81904524) & Barbara Bingen (1825-1907, F: 81909520). – In 1910, Charley A. Wildes (44 OH, in 2nd marriage, parents' birthplaces unknown) lived in Barron, Barron WI with wife Mary (46 WI, in 2nd marriage, parents b. Ireland, gave birth to 4 children, 2 are living), stepdaughter Anna M. Basenach (20 WI, single, father b. WI, mother b. OH) & his mother-in-law, Margaret Keating (68 Ireland, parents b. Ireland, widow,, gave birth to 5 children, 3 are living). - In 1940, Charlie Wildes, 74 OH lived with wife Mary (71 – or 76, written over, WI) in Barron, Barron WI. - Died of prostate cancer. Buried in Barron [formerly Wayside] Cemetery, Barron, Barron WI. F: 7243777
- Sarah Elizabeth (Lizzie) Wildes Hanchett, 1 Jun 1869 Vernon Co. WI - 27 Nov 1940 Hawkins, Rusk WI. Wife of George Burton Hanchett (1866 WI – 1950 CA, F: 154170109), whom she married 1 Jul 1889 in Clinton, Barron WI. Buried in Hillcrest Cemetery, Hawkins, Rusk WI. F: 145393884

Notes: Wayside Cemetery changed its name to Barron Cemetery.

Wartime:

Post-war:

Obituary:

Censuses:

1860 Viroqua, Bad Ax Co. WI

George W. Brown, 28 OH, farmer

Abieal, 34 OH [wife Abigail Adams]

Margaret, 1 WI

John, 3 WI

1870 Webster, Vernon WI

George N. Brown, 38 OH, farmer

Margaret E., 10 WI, at home [daughter]

Simeon, 8 WI, at home [son]

1880 Clinton, Barron WI – his father & mother

George W. Brown, 39 OH, parents' birthplaces left blank, farmer

Catherine Brown, 34 OH, parents b. OH, keeps house [wife]

Charles A. Wiles [sic/Wildes], 12 OH, parents b. OH., at house [stepson]

Sarah E. Wiles, 10 WI, parents b. OH [stepdaughter]

Simeon Brown, 18 WI, father b. WI, mother b. OH [son]

Jacob R. Brown, 6 WI, father b. WI, mother b. OH [son]

William S. Brown, 5 WI, father b. WI, mother b. OH [son]

Mary J. Brown, 2 WI, father b. WI, mother b. OH [daughter]

Nancy M. Brown, 1 month, b. Apr 1880, father b. WI, mother b. OH [daughter]

1900 Clinton, Barron WI – Benjamin, who would have been about 6 years old, is not listed with his parents:

George W. Brown, 67 OH, Jul 1832, parents b. OH, married 25 years, farmer

Catrine, 53 OH, Jun 1846, parents b. OH, gave birth to 8 children, 6 are living

Jacob A., 24 WI, Mar 1876, farm laborer

Thomas, 9 WI, Mar 1891, at school

Mina Huhjs, 19 WI, Mar 1891, servant

1905 WI state census – Arland, Barron WI

George Brown, 74 OH, parents b. OH, farmer

Kathrine, 58 OH, parents b. OH

Jacob, 31 WI, married, farmer

Minnie, 21 WI, married [“his wife”]

Thomas, 14 WI, day laborer

Harrison, 11 WI

1910 Barron, Barron WI

George W. Brown, 77 OH, parents b. OH, in 2nd marriage, married 36 years, own income

Catherine, 63 OH, parents b. OH, in 2nd marriage

Benjamin, 15 WI, student, high school

