

Knud "Knut" Slogvik Anderson 1798-1867

Evidence just brought to light indicates that Knud Anderson SLogvik first came to America in 1829 rather than on the Sloop in 1829. Even if this should be proved, it is proper to include him with the Sloopers because his brother Jacob was on the Sloop; his wife Anna was a sister of Ole Olson Hettletveit, prominent Sloop; and Knud himself was intimately associated with the group both in Kendall and during the pioneer move to Fox River, Illinois. Also, though perhaps unwittingly, he became the Sloop's chief ambassador to inform their countrymen in Norway of life in America, and to encourage and even lead immigration to join them there.

Knud Anderson's activities both in America and Norway have been given through the year 1837 in Part I of this book. In that year he returned from the Shelby County, Missouri, settlement to the Fox River settlement in Illinois. However, he returned to northeastern Missouri, possibly in 1839, and probably to the Shelby County settlement. His principal town was Edina, county seat of the present Knox County, or Palmyra, about 12 miles northwest of Hannibal. The area has been spoken of as a wilderness in which one of the first settlers walked for nine days, living on wild strawberries, before finding a human habitation. It was certainly a long way from a market, nevertheless another settler stoutly asserted that no other Norwegian settlement had a better appearance or a better location.

Knud Anderson's future wife, Anne Olsdatter Hettletveit, also went to northeastern Missouri. She went as a housekeeper with her brother Jacob, possibly in 1839. Knud had become acquainted with her on the boat and in 1840 they were married at or near Edina, Missouri. Their two oldest children were born in Missouri.

Knud Anderson was a fair-complexioned man of light build and below average height. He weighed only 95 to 120 pounds. His health was described as "delicate from infancy." In religion he was a Quaker, like others among the early immigrants. In politics he was a Republican, as might be expected since the party was strongly anti-slavery in its early years (those following 1854).

In 1843 the Andersons moved to the Sugar Creek settlement in Lee County, Iowa. This had been founded by Cleng Peer son and others in 1840 and included the majority of the Shelby County settlers. The location had the advantages of nearness to market and being in a state which did not allow slavery.

There are two Sugar Creeks in Lee County but the Norwegians settled on the southernmost, Knud's land may be located today in the southwest corner of Montrose Township, adjoining Jackson Township on the south, and with some land in Des Moines Township on the west. (The farm buildings lay on the west bank of Sugar Creek.) Settlers were buried in the Anderson Cemetery, located on the north side of Knud's land.

It was in this cemetery that "Kanute Anderson, Native of Norway" was laid to rest after his death Jan.10, 1867, at the age of 68. Thousands of Norwegian-Americans descended from the four shiploads of 1836/7, owe their presence in America to this quiet little Quaker pioneer. His wife Ann lived until she was 75, when she died of pneumonia and was laid beside him on the hill overlooking the farm and the creek.



Canute and Anna Anderson Oleson family: Bianna, Irving, Andrew, Clara, Linda, Rachel, and Norman Kruse



Andrew Anderson



Serena Anderson