

## Sarah Margaret Breiner Page



**Lifespan:** 84 years, 1847-1932. Born in Clarkville, NJ, 06/07/1847. Died in Dudley Twp, 02/27/1932. Buried in Dudley Cemetery.

**Locations:** Clarkville (1847), Churdan, Green County, IA (1854), Dudley Twp (1882).

**Spouse:** Hiram C. Page, 1842-1906. Born in Vermont. Married 05/09/1868 in Iowa. Blacksmith, Farmer, Homesteader (Dudley 160 acres in Section 26). Died as result of farm accident.

**Sarah Page Profile:** Sarah, motherless at age twelve, likely took on the role of housekeeper for her father and four brothers at an early age. Her romance with her future husband started in 1868, when he rescued her from a Circus tent that collapsed during a windstorm. They were married later that year when she was twenty-one years of age. By the age of forty-two, she had given birth to twelve children, one whom died in childhood. In 1882, she and her husband homesteaded in Aurora County, near where the town of Stickney was later established. Hiram came first and Sarah followed by train a few months later bringing her seven children, including the newborn baby. Sarah ran the farm and family during the winter months as her husband traveled the countryside tempering anvils.

Surviving terrible blizzards, searing heat, dusty windstorms, crop-destroying hail, and a fire that destroyed a barn and part of the house, Page raised her children, socialized with her neighbors, and provided leadership in her community. She served as midwife for other neighbors, kept the custom of inviting the minister, neighbors, and local bachelors for Sunday dinner, and helped to charter the United Brethren Church, serving on its first board. Setting a priority on music, the family traded a horse and an organ for a Kimball brand piano in 1898, and her three sons performed for many years in the four-person Page Orchestra. At the time of her death, she was the proud grandmother of twenty-two grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

**Family Connections/Occupations:** Sarah's three youngest sons remained near her in Dudley Township, and her daughter Agnes lived in Mitchell. In 2021, two of her grandchildren still live in Aurora County, Hershell Page, aged 96, and Peggy Swent, aged 99. While some of Sarah's great-grandchildren still live in South Dakota, none of them live in Aurora county.

**Roles/Talent:** Mother, grandmother, farmer, good neighbor, church leader.

**Parents (Ethnicity):** Peter B. Breiner and Jemima Ann Smith, both of Pennsylvania. Breiner's father came from Alsace-Lorraine, France.

**Children:** 12 children born 1869-1890. **Huldah** (Edward Roberts), **Sarah/Jenny** (John Bailey), **Mary** (James Ruddy), **Rose Etta**, **Lottie** (Fred Quade), **Lida** (John Day), **Steward**, **Emma** (Charles McLean), **Agnes** (Fred Bielfeldt), **Frank**, **Charles** (Marie Dittman), Ernest (Margaret Magonegil). Rose Etta died at age 3. Huldah, Lottie, Lida, and Steward reached adulthood but pre-deceased Sarah.

**Sisters:** None

**Brothers:** John, William, David, Francis (all remained in Iowa)

**Education:**

**Work Experience:**

**Church, Clubs and Organizations:** Charter member United Brethren Church, Stickney

**Time in Aurora County:** 50 years.

**Physical Appearance:** Noticeably shorter than her husband, Sarah had a large purple birthmark on one side of her forehead.

**Date of Submission:** March 2021      **Latest Update:** April 17, 2021

**Submitter:** Ruth Page Jones, great-granddaughter, rpjhistories@gmail.com

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Picture 1: Sarah Page's house on the homestead at her daughter's wedding in 1906.  
Picture 2: Sarah and Hiram Page, likely with oldest daughter Huldah in 1869.