



Family of Henry Bonisteel and Anna Bush in Upper Canada

compiled by [John A. Brebner](#)

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Version 1.5

Generation One

1. **Henry Bonisteel** #117369, b. c. 1788 in United States/Canada West,¹ occupation 1851 Farmer in Sidney Township.

Possibly from Dutchess County, new York?

Settled in Sidney Township. Nine children.

Is this family related to the BONESTEEL (sic) family of Jacob and Christian WELCH of Edwardsburgh?

1851: Family lived in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

He married **Anna Bush** #117370, b. c. 1793 in Canada West.¹

Children:

2. i. **Gilbert Bonisteel** #191701 b. c. 1810.
3. ii. **Peter Bonisteel** #191700 b. c. 1815.
4. iii. **Oriel Bonisteel** #191702.
5. iv. **Samuel Bonisteel** #117368 b. c. 1817.
6. v. **Huldah Bonisteel** #191704.
7. vi. **Sidney Bonisteel** #191703 b. c. 1830.
8. vii. **Abigail Ann Bonisteel** #191708 b. c. 1833.
9. viii. **Elizabeth Bonisteel** #191707.
10. ix. **John N.? Bonisteel** #191706 b. c. 1836.

Generation Two

2. **Gilbert Bonisteel** #191701, b. c. 1810 in Ontario,^{2,1} occupation 1851 Farmer in Sidney Township, d. before 1871 in Sidney Township? .

1851: Family lived in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

He married **Maria (unidentified)** #193837, b. c. 1810 in United States of America,¹ d. after 1871 in Sidney Township.

Maria:

1871: Widowed, lived with son Norval and wife in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

Children:

11. i. **Alzina Bonisteel** #193838 b. c. 1834.
 12. ii. **William N.? Bonisteel** #193839 b. c. 1835.
 13. iii. **Rebecca Bonisteel** #193840 b. c. 1838.
 14. iv. **Catherine S.? Bonisteel** #193841 b. c. 1840.
 15. v. **Norval Bonisteel** #193842 b. c. 1842.
 16. vi. **Norris Bonisteel** #193843 b. c. 1844.
 17. vii. **Philip Bonisteel** #193844 b. c. 1846.
3. **Peter Bonisteel** #191700, b. c. 1815 in Ontario,^{2,1} occupation 1851 Farmer in Sidney Township.

1851: Family lived in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

He married **Amelia Ann (unidentified)** #193830, b. c. 1814 in Ontario.¹

Children:

18. i. **Catherine P. Bonisteel** #193831 b. c. 1836.
 19. ii. **Samuel A. Bonisteel** #193832 b. c. 1840.
 20. iii. **Abigail A. Bonisteel** #193833 b. c. 1844.
 21. iv. **James A. Bonisteel** #193834 b. c. 1845.
 22. v. **Anna C. Bonisteel** #193835 b. c. 1858.
 23. vi. **Elizabeth W. Bonisteel** #193836 b. c. 1850.
4. **Oriel Bonisteel** #191702, b.²
5. **Samuel Bonisteel** #117368, b. c. 1817 in Ontario,³ occupation 1871 Farmer in Sidney Township, religion 1871 Society of Friends/Quaker.

Family settled in Sidney Township, Hastings County. Lived alongside other Bonisteel family members.

1871: Family lived in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

He married **Jane Leavens** #81079, b. c. 1823 in Prince Edward County, Ontario,⁴ (daughter of **Peter E. Leavens** #81070 [Farmer] and **Elizabeth (Betsy) Lounsberry** #81071), religion 1829 - 1871 Society of Friends/Orthodox Quaker.⁵

Children:

- 24. i. **Mary E. Bonisteel** #117371 b. c. 1842.
- 25. ii. **Charles H. Bonisteel** #117372 b. 16 July 1850.

6. **Huldah Bonisteel** #191704, b.²

She married **John S. Smith** #191711.

7. **Sidney Bonisteel** #191703, b. c. 1830 in Ontario,^{2,1} occupation 1851 Labourer in Sidney Township.

8. **Abigail Ann Bonisteel** #191708, b. c. 1833 in Ontario.^{2,1}

She married **(unidentified) Creedman** #191709.²

9. **Elizabeth Bonisteel** #191707, b.²

She married **John H. Vandervoort** #241094, b. in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario,⁶ (son of **Samuel Vandervoort** #223105 [Farmer in Hastings County] and **Catherine Hess** #223106).

John:

Family lived in Sidney Township, immigrated to California.

Children:

- 26. i. **Anna Vandervoort** #241167.
- 27. ii. **Melvinda Vandervoort** #241168.
- 28. iii. **Frank Vandervoort** #241169.
- 29. iv. **Baldwin Vandervoort** #241170.
- 30. v. **Nettie Vandervoort** #241171.

10. **John N.? Bonisteel** #191706, b. c. 1836 in Ontario,^{2,1} occupation 1851 Labourer in Sidney Township.

Generation Three

- 11. **Alzina Bonisteel** #193838, b. c. 1834 in Ontario.¹
- 12. **William N.? Bonisteel** #193839, b. c. 1835 in Ontario.¹
- 13. **Rebecca Bonisteel** #193840, b. c. 1838 in Ontario.¹
- 14. **Catherine S.? Bonisteel** #193841, b. c. 1840 in Ontario.¹
- 15. **Norval Bonisteel** #193842, b. c. 1842 in Ontario,¹ occupation 1871 Farmer in Sidney Township.

1871: Family lived in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.

He married **Aramintha (unidentified)** #259858, b. c. 1849 in Ontario.⁷

- 16. **Norris Bonisteel** #193843, b. c. 1844 in Ontario.¹
- 17. **Philip Bonisteel** #193844, b. c. 1846 in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.¹

18. **Catherine P. Bonisteel** #193831, b. c. 1836 in Ontario.¹ .
19. **Samuel A. Bonisteel** #193832, b. c. 1840 in Ontario.¹ .
20. **Abigail A. Bonisteel** #193833, b. c. 1844 in Ontario.¹ .
21. **James A. Bonisteel** #193834, b. c. 1845 in Ontario.¹ .
22. **Anna C. Bonisteel** #193835, b. c. 1858 in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.¹ .
23. **Elizabeth W. Bonisteel** #193836, b. c. 1850 in Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario.¹ .
24. **Mary E. Bonisteel** #117371, b. c. 1842 in Hastings County?¹ .

Pioneer Life suggests that Samuel and Jane had only one child, Charles.

25. **Charles H. Bonisteel** #117372, b. 16 July 1850 in Sidney?, Hastings County, Ontario,^{2,1} occupation 1871 Farmer in Sidney Township, religion 1871 Society of Friends/Quaker.

Until 1883: lived in Sidney Township.

1883 - 1893: Lived in Assiniboia

Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte, 1905; Charles Bonisteel; (page 173)

"A well-known member of the Leavens family and a lineal descendant of the sturdy United Empire Loyalist, Henry Bonisteel, is Charles H. Bonisteel no resident at Belleville, but for years himself a successful pioneer and citizen of Assiniboia. His father, Samuel Bonisteel, married Jane, daughter of Peter Leavens. His grandfather was Henry Bonisteel, who came from the United States and settled in Sidney near the famous and historical White Church; by his wife, whose maiden name was Bush, ne had nine children, to wit: Peter, Samuel, Gilbert, Oriel, Sidney, Huldah, (Mrs. John Smith), Samuel, John, Elizabeth (Mrs. Vandervoort) and Abigail (Mrs. Creedman). Of these Samuel married Jane Leavens, and settled in Sidney. They had but one child, Charles H. Bonisteel, who was born upon the 16th day of July, 1850. He married (Nov. 27th, 1876) Clarissa White and had issue: Emma L., Lee H., Louise M., Jennie E., Frank W. and Sabra. Emma L., the eldest of these children married Arthur A. Perley, son of Senator Perley, of Assiniboia N.W.T, and settled at Woolsey, and had issue (1) Henry Dell, (2) Edna Louise, (3)Helen and (4) Blanche.

"Mr. Bonisteel lived in Sidney until about 1883, when he removed to Assiniboia. Here he remained for twenty years, during which time he not only secured for himself and family a handsome competence, but heartily contributed his skill and energy to throwing open and building up this future granary of the world. In 1893 the educational needs of his growing family induced his return to Ontario. Since then he has lived a retired life at Belleville, retaining his fondness for, and his interest in, the great Northwest.

"Mr. Bonisteel belongs to the Liberal party, but he has never accepted any office beyond serving for some years as Councillor while a resident of Assiniboia. He is a faithful member of the Methodist Church. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Foresters."

He married **Clarissa White** #191712, 27 November 1876 in Sidney?.²

Children:

31. i. **Emma L. Bonisteel** #191713.
32. ii. **Lee H. Bonisteel** #191714.
33. iii. **Louisa M. Bonisteel** #191715.

34. iv. **Jennie E. Bonisteel** #191716.

35. v. **Frank W. Bonisteel** #191717.

36. vi. **Sabra Bonisteel** #191718.

26. **Anna Vandervoort** #241167, b.⁶

27. **Melvinda Vandervoort** #241168, b.⁶

28. **Frank Vandervoort** #241169, b.⁶

29. **Baldwin Vandervoort** #241170, b.⁶ occupation Druggist in California.⁶

30. **Nettie Vandervoort** #241171, b.⁶

Generation Four

31. **Emma L. Bonisteel** #191713, b.²

She married **Arthur A. Perley** #191719.²

Arthur:

Family lived in Woolsey.

Children:

37. i. **Henry Dell Perley** #191720.

38. ii. **Edna Louise Perley** #191721.

39. iii. **Helen Perley** #191722.

40. iv. **Blanche Perley** #191723.

32. **Lee H. Bonisteel** #191714, b.²

33. **Louisa M. Bonisteel** #191715, b.²

34. **Jennie E. Bonisteel** #191716, b.²

35. **Frank W. Bonisteel** #191717, b.²

36. **Sabra Bonisteel** #191718, b.²

Generation Five

37. **Henry Dell Perley** #191720, b.²

38. **Edna Louise Perley** #191721, b.²

39. **Helen Perley** #191722, b.²

40. **Blanche Perley** #191723, b.²

¹ 1851 Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario census; age/birthplace/assumed relationship.

² Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte, 1905; Bonisteel, (page 173).

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- ³ Gayla Vidal genealogy, MAGRC, transcribed OCT 2018.
⁴ West Lake (Conservative) Meeting, Monthly Meeting Register (1820-1882).
⁵ West Lake (Conservative) Meeting, Quaker Monthly Meeting Registers.
⁶ Pioneer Life on the Bay of Quinte, The Vandervoort Family; pages 834 - 841.
⁷ 1871 Sidney Township, Hastings County, Ontario census; age/birthplace/assumed relationship.