Lousettie S. Ogden & James A. Croswell

of

Union County, Arkansas

by Timothy Dean Hudson

Lousettie S. Ogden was born on 28 October 1824 in Hempstead County, Arkansas Territory, the daughter of Isaac Ogden and Milinda Reed. She married James A. Croswell on 9 November 1843 in Union County [1]. James was born on 10 March 1816 in Tennessee. Like her brother Nathaniel, Lousettie and James do not appear on the 1850 or 1860 Union County censuses, despite living there throughout their lives [2]. On 6 November 1858, James A. Croswell purchased 80 acres of government land several miles southwest of Isaac Ogden's farm and about one mile east of the modern community of Caledonia.

In 1870, the federal census enumerator reported that James Croswell's farm consisted of 60 acres of land improved and 20 acres unimproved valued at $400. He also owned $20 worth of farming implements and machinery. Croswell's current livestock holdings and 1869 crop production included [3]:

1870 Union County, Arkansas Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule
Farm of James H. Croswell

Livestock as of 1 June 1870								1869 Farm Production								
Horses	Asses or Mules	Milch cows	Working oxen	Other cattle	Sheep	Swine	Value livestock	Bushels Indian corn	Bales, Ginned cotton	Pounds of Wool	Bushels. Peas & Beans	Bushels sweet potatoes	Pounds of Butter	Pounds of Honey	$ Slaughtered Animals	Total Farm Production
2	1	10	4	8	15	10	500	400	--	20	15	50	100	20	175	650

Lousettie S. Ogden Croswell died on 7 November 1875 at the age of only fifty-one years. She was buried in the Olive Branch Methodist Cemetery. Her tombstone reads:

Lord she was thine and not my own thou hast not done me wrong.

After Lousettie's death, James remained on his farm with his sons, Isaac and Caline, who undoubtedly helped him cultivate his land. According to the 1880 census, James' relative M. A. Croswell lived in the adjoining household, and James suffered from *dyspepsia* [4]. James had 40 acres of improved land, including tilled and fallow land and pastures, with 160 acres of woodland

and forest, all valued at $1000. He owned farming implements and machinery valued at $50, and in 1879, he spent $25 building and repairing fences. Croswell paid $10 in wages for 4 weeks of farm labor by black workers. The value of his livestock on hand as of 1 June 1880 was $100, and the total value of his 1879 farm production was $250, including [5]:

1880 Union County, Arkansas Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule
James A. Croswell, farm owner

Livestock as of 1 June 1880							1879 Farm Production												
Horses	Asses or Mules	Working Oxen	Milch cows	Other cattle	Calves born in 1879	Swine	Acres in Indian Corn	Bushels Indian Corn	Acres in Cotton	Bales of Ginned Cotton	Acres in Oats	Bushels of Oats	Bushels Cow peas	Acres in Sweet Potatoes	Bushels Sweet Potatoes	Pounds of Honey	Pounds of Beeswax	Bushels of Apples	Bushels of Peaches	Value, Orchard Produce
--	1	-	1	1	2	15	10	100	12	2	2	5	5	--	20	5	2	400	400	50

As with several members of the family of her brother, Nathaniel, most of Lousettie's family died prematurely during the 1890s, possibly from tuberculosis. Caline died on 20 February 1891, Isaac W. on 8 May 1891, Elizabeth on 5 January 1893, and James on 27 May 1893. Only John F. Croswell lived what was considered a full lifetime in that era, surviving until 8 March 1928. Lousettie and James, together with all four of their children were buried in the Olive Branch Methodist Cemetery, with their tombstones now in a very deteriorated condition.

Lousettie’s short life left a small but traceable documentary footprint in the early settlement history of Union County.

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Children of Lousettie S. Ogden & James A. Croswell

Due to their being missed on the 1850 and 1860 federal censuses, the only known children of Lousettie Ogden and James Croswell are those living with them in 1870 [6]:

1. **Isaac W. Croswell** (14 Dec 1848–8 May 1891) married on 8 March 1877 in Union County, Arkansas to Nancy J. Goodson [Nannie] (c1845–aft. 1910), daughter of John Calvin Goodson (Jun 1822–aft. 1900) and Mariah J. Pratt (c1826–aft. 1880). Isaac W. Croswell is buried with his parents in the Olive Branch Cemetery near Caledonia, Union County Arkansas.

   Isaac Croswell and Nancy Goodson had one son to survive early childhood:

   a. **James Calvin Croswell** (18 Apr 1878–5 Feb 1956) married on 1 January 1910 in Union County, Arkansas to Maggie May White (12 Sep 1891–28 Aug 1966). They farmed in Union County until the early 1920s. In 1930, they lived in Fort Worth, where James worked as a carpenter. In 1940, they lived in Angelina County. James C. Croswell died in Longview, Gregg County, Texas. He and Maggie are buried in the Memory Park Cemetery, Harrison County, Texas.

2. **Elizabeth Croswell** (31 Oct 1851–5 Jan 1893) married on 17 October 1875 in Union County, Arkansas to Odom Augustus Pepper (14 Jul 1852–16 Dec 1936), son of John Pepper [Jack] (23 Sep 1817–26 Jul 1888) and Ann Hood (c1822–c1876). They had seven children before Elizabeth's premature death in 1893. Odom did not remarry, surviving her by forty-three years. Elizabeth Croswell and Odom Pepper are buried in the Olive Branch Cemetery near Caledonia, Union County Arkansas.

3. **John Franklin Croswell** (23 Mar 1853–8 Mar 1928) married on 20 December 1877 in Union County, Arkansas to Lucy Ann Goodson (30 Jan 1854–20 Jan 1902), daughter of John Calvin Goodson (Jun 1822–aft. 1900) and Mariah J. Pratt (c1826–aft. 1880). John and Lucy Croswell are buried near his parents in the Olive Branch Cemetery near Caledonia, Union County Arkansas.

   Isaac Croswell and Nancy Goodson had one child to survive early childhood:

   a. **Lilla Belle Croswell** (22 Sep 1878–9 Jan 1961) married on 10 April 1900 in Union County, Arkansas to James Andrew Hollis (25 Aug 1877–24 Jan 1942), son of Andrew Marion Hollis (5 Apr 1840–19 Jul 1912) and Nancy Caroline Cherry (10 Feb 1843–21 Aug 1916). Lilla and James Hollis are buried in Arlington Memorial Park, El Dorado, Union County, Arkansas.

4. **Caline Robert Croswell** (8 Nov 1864–20 Feb 1891) appears to have remained single. He died at the age of twenty-six and is buried near his parents in the Olive Branch Cemetery near Caledonia, Union County Arkansas.

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Notes

1. Union County AR Deed Book A, p. 266.
2. 1870 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, P.O. El Dorado, p. 545b/5, Dwelling #39, line #38: James H.[sic] Crosswell (age: 55; Farmer; personal estate $600; born: Tennessee); #39: Lucretia Crosswell (age 46; Keeping House; born: Arkansas); line #40: Isaac W. Crosswell (age: 20; At home); p. 546a/6, line #1: Elizabeth Crosswell (age: 17; At home); #2: John Crosswell (age: 15; At home); #3: Robert C. Crosswell (age: 5; At home).
3. 1870 Union County AR Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Jackson Township, Post Office El Dorado, p. 1, #29, James H.[sic] Croswell.
4. 1880 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, 1 June 1880, p. 290, #159 M. A. Croswell; #161 James A. Croswell 64, widowed, farmer, with James and his parents all born in Tennessee; Isaac W. 33, Nancy J. 32, James C. 2, and Caline R. 15.
5. 1880 Union County AR Federal Census, Agricultural Schedule, Jackson Township, p. 15, #6 James A. Croswell.
6. 1870 Union County AR Federal Census, Jackson Township, P.O. El Dorado, p. 545b/5 & p. 546a/6, Dwelling #39.

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