

Accession 1997-10

Cartes de visite labeled J. H. Gue

Item level record in Procite Photo Database added January 22, 2009

See also Acc. #1997-23 Benjamin F. GUE Diary

This image is likely of Joseph H. GUE, born April 5, 1831 in New York. He was a brother of Benjamin F. GUE, who resided in Scott County and Davenport and went on to a career in politics, newspapers, and as an author of history.

Joseph H. Gue was married in Cedar County, Iowa in June 1855 and appears in Cedar County, Iowa in the 1860 census. In the 1870 census Joseph H. Gue and his family are listed in Osage County, Kansas, making it probable that this particular image was taken sometime prior to 1870.

Features of this cartes de visite, the man's attire, facial hair and hairstyle indicate an 1860-1870 time period.

Egbert & Cook Photographers could not be located in Davenport city directories, but both men had individual studios of photography in the 1860-1875 time period. Egbert lost his Davenport studio in a fire in 1876 and moved to Atlantic, Cass County, Iowa. Cook seems to have worked in photography in Davenport from about 1862-1875.

Recto: Image of a man with a full beard, mustache and thick dark hair parted on the side. His eyes appear to be light in color. His tie is narrow and dark, appearing to be inverted under his collar. His vest is striped and his coat has wide lapels. The image nearly fills the card. There is a thin border around the image. The bottom corners of the card are slightly rounded but the top corners appear square.

Verso: Egbert & Cook Photographers, 312 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa.

Quite fancy logo and intricate design motif.

Handwritten in pencil "J. H. Gue"

Timeline for Joseph H. GUE & direct family

1831 Joseph born in New York to John and Catherine (GURNEY) GUE

Mentioned in brother Benjamin F. GUE's diary typescript:

- | | | |
|------|----------|--|
| 1848 | April 4 | Jo drew lumber to be sawed |
| | April 5 | Jo's birthday |
| | Sept. 11 | Jo went to Macedon Center |
| | Sept.23 | Jo & Mother went to Palmyra |
| 1849 | Sept.2 | Jo to Cortland Co. to attend Manual Labor Central College |
| 1850 | May | sister Sarah Ann (GUE) McCOMBER [Mrs. James] dies suddenly |
| | July 18 | Federal census lists Joseph as age 20, living in town of Farmington, Ontario County, New York; mother Catherine is head of household |
| 1851 | Sept. 1 | Jo & Glenn made arrangements to start for the West |
| | Sept.3 | Jo & Glen out to Honeyoye on their way to Illinois |
| | Nov. 12 | Jo sent letter saying he's in Moline Mills getting \$22 a month packing flour. Jo gives rather a hard description of Illinois as regards raising grain, but says money to be made keeping stock. |
| 1852 | Jan. 1 | Italicized items transcribed from Benjamin G. GUE's diary. |

In the mean time Jo had gone to Illinois with Lou Glenn. They drove a flock of sheep out for Mr. Pitts whose farm they were going to work. They got out there after a long time-when they found they had been deceived by Mr. Pitts in regard to the farm and after robbing them of part of their money Mr. Pitts made some excuse to turn them off with but little money and more than a thousand miles from home. They went from there to St. Louis in hopes of finding employment but failed to obtain any and went from there to Cincinatti in Ohio where they will probably stay the winter. They have written to me from there to come out and go

west with them and go to raising stock. I am waiting now to hear if I can get my money--if I can I intend to go.

Monday February 23^d took the cars for Shelby from there to Monroeville and stage to Bellevue got there at 6 o'clock and found Jo and Lou Glenn it was the first time I had seen them for most seven months and we passed the evening telling our adventures-the news etc and talking of old times.

Tuesday the 24th Staid over one day at Bellevue to visit with Lou before going on. Took a look at the City through mud ankle deep. It is like all other western Cities "extensively laid out and thinly settled."

Wednesday the 25th Jo and I started west and Lou left for New York. We hired a livery team to Toledo. Started from "Bellevue" at 8 [a.m.?p.m.] passed through "Lower Sandusky" "Perrysburg" and "Woodville" crossed the "Sandusky and Maumee Rivers" and got into Toledo at 6 ½ p.m. Put up at the Kingsbury House and found Bill Harvey and had a good visit with him. Toledo is quite a town and is growing very fast—is situated on the Maumee River 10 miles from its mouth.

Thursday the 26th started from Toledo on the Erie & Kalamazoo R.R. at 8 ½ a.m. passed through Adrian-Hillsdale took dinner-at Cold Water saw Robert Phetteplace. Got to Laport, Ind. At 7 and took the stage for Michigan City and got there at 9 ½ p.m. and staid over night. This is another regular western city—surrounded by sand hills and situated on Lake Mich.

Friday the 27th Took the cars for Chicago at 8 ½ p.m. and traveled along the shores of lake Mich. Through marshes and sand banks and at last got out on the first great prairie in its wild state I had seen. It was almost perfectly level and extended beyond Chicago. The city is built on the prairie near the mouth of the Chicago River and on Lake Michigan. The land around Chicago is perfectly level as far as the eye can reach. Although some parts of Chicago have a new look like all of the western cities- a portion of it is compact and has quite an eastern look about it. Some of the book stores would compare well with Albany and New York in the richness and variety of their goods. This city is superior in one point to any western

city I have passed through—that is in the “noise and confusion” of the Hotel Porters and Cabmen it is almost impossible to keep “body and soul” and baggage together on leaving the cars I would advise travelers visiting the city to carry a good can to “clear the track”. We put up at the Mattison House kept by Pierce formerly of Geneva N.Y. and found every thing as it should be waiter attentive Landlord obliging and fare of the best kind. We got in at about 10 o’clock a.m. and took a look at the city until dinner. Here we made our last purchases for western outfit-consisting of two “bowie knives”—a “Pocket Compass” and a “Western Guide” We took the cars at 3 o’clock and road on a level prairie for 30 miles to Aurora and got there at 6 ½ and put up at the Empire Hotel and found it to be a miserable place. The fare poor and Landlord crusty.

Saturday the 28th was cold and stormy-hired a livery team to take us to Dixon-sixty-five miles for \$8.00. At 2 o’clock p.m. we found our stage ready for a start. It was a large lumber wagon covered with canvass with springs under it and a pretty Ohio girl in it who proved to be the drivers wife. The day was cold and I had the pleasure of sitting close to our lady passenger to keep the buffalo robe round her. Found it to be quite a comfortable place especially going through pitch holes. We rode twenty miles and put up at a regular Dutch western tavern cold as a barn and dirty as it was cold. We managed to live through the night notwithstanding the temperature in bed was below the freezing point and started as early next morning as we could get away.

Sunday the 29th was very cold started at 8 o’clock and rode 22 miles and stopped at a tavern and took dinner which was pretty good for the country. Started again at 2 o’clock and rode into Dixon 23 miles and put up at the best tavern in the place which was a poor apology for a hog farm. Sat in the evening and thought how different this was from Sunday in Farmington.

Monday the first day of March, 1852 started from Dixon at ½ past 8 p.m. [a.m.?] crossed Rock River and rode through 17 miles of splendid prairie country and took dinner at Como a first rate dinner in one of the dirtiest taverns I ever saw. Went on from here to “Erie” which is a famous western village consisting of three houses.

Staid over night at a tavern where all slept in one room divided by curtains there were seven beds filled with men women and children.

Tuesday the 2nd Started for "Rock Island" at 8 ½ O'clock and got to Port Byron at 11 ½ and took dinner; here I got the first view of the great Mississippi.

[Feb. 18th to March 3rd got to Rock Island before night and put up at the Rock Island House. This written in pencil in an unsteady hand.]

Wednesday March 3rd In the morning we looked round the town wrote letters and made preparations to cross the river. We overhauled our things filled out carpet bags left our trunks at the Rock Island House and started on our trip across the River. We got down to the shore and found that people had been crossing all the morning on the ice and that it was not considered very dangerous. A boatman pointed out the course for us to take—we got some staffs and started out on the sea of ice for the "Iowa" shore. We traveled for some distance without any difficulty until we got out over the current where we found the ice piled up in great ledges wedged in all shapes some piled up ten feet high—some immense cakes standing on the edge with deep chasms between with a swift current of water running at the bottom—we went on in this way for a long distance sometimes going a long distance up stream to avoid air holes—sometimes leaping from one huge cake of ice to another slipping and stumbling every minute until it got so bad that it was almost impossible to proceed. We looked back and it seemed as far to either shore as it did from one to the other when we started—the prospect looked dark and we could not help thinking how impossible it would be to escape if the ice should break up. We started on again thinking we must have gone over the worst of it and after a slow difficult journey of climbing—walking—sliding and jumping we at last reached the smooth ice and soon landed in Iowa as completely tired out as I ever was in my life. But the "Rubicon" was passed—we were in "Iowa" the "long wished for land of promise" and we walked on with renewed energy went up to the land office to make inquiries before starting out. As we sat there talking we heard a heavy rumbling noise the Agent stepped to the door and looked towards the river and exclaimed "the ice is moving." I never was more

startled in my life. I got up and looked out and could hardly believe my eyes as I saw the huge body of ice which we had crossed fifteen minutes before rolling, tumbling and foaming in a confused mass as it went thundering by. It was a grand sight-but I could not help thinking what a grand and awful ride our first and last would have been on the great Mississippi if we had started ten minutes later.

After crossing the river we went up to the Land Office and took notes of several pieces of land and started for Little's Grove. We took our carpet bag towards night and started on a tramp across the prairie in search of a farm. We walked four or five miles and night overtaking us we tried to find a place to put up-but we were in a Dutch settlement and they were all afraid to keep us and we had to go on until 7 o'clock tired and hungry when we came to a "white mans" house Mr. Little from Ohio. We did not regret that the Dutch had refused us lodging for this was a first rate place and first rate people.

Thursday the 4th was rainy went out to Hickory Grove and looked at the prairie around and put up at Mr. Porters-and he was a regular Iowa man we had coffee without sugar bread without butter and fried cakes without sweetening and other things in proportion. [Written in many years after: Here I met the girl who was to be my wife-Lizzie Parker and Jo first met Mary Willey who became his wife. Little did any of us think that evening what our accidental meeting and acquaintance would lead to."]

Friday the 5th was cold, wet, and unpleasant. We went out on the prairie and tramped all day long in search of land to suit us. Found the bridges all gone and the roads overflowed. We came back to Porters and found some boarders there and I got acquainted with a class-mate of William H. Seward.

Saturday the 5th was cool, left Porters and went up to Postens Grove. We went up with a Mr. Wells to look at a quarter section of timber land which belonged to him. We got up there and looked at his timber and found enough on 160 acres to cover about 10. Went down to George Godards to look at a pair of horses. Staid at Well's over night and saw Miss Willey and Miss Parker. [Written in later: who

spent the evening with the family and we got acquainted with them.] Sunday the 7th went over to Mr. Godards to look at his horses and try them but we did not make a trade with him. Went from there to Mr. Porters to look at his farm. It consisted of 200 acres—160 of prairie and 40 of timber-75 acres broke 50 fenced and two log houses on it. Price \$800. We went from there to Mr. Hoskins to look at a pair of horses he had gone from home and we staid all night. There was ten in the family besides us, and all slept in one room; men, women and children, cats and dogs.

Monday the 8th Went to look at Mr. Parrs claim of 160 acres-25 acres improvement and fenced, with a log house. We liked the place very well-and found his price was \$250 but before we left he offered it for \$150. His land laid on a western decent and was in the edge of the Barrens. We went back to Mr. Hoskins and offered him his price for his horses and he backed out. We then made him an offer for another horse and after a long study on the subject he concluded to let us take them .He could not read or write, so that he did not take paper money, so that we must go to Davenport and get it changed. He at first was unwilling to go with us or let one of us have a horse to ride unless he would have the value of the horse in money. We offered him the money as security but he was afraid it was not good, and at last concluded to go with us. So we got ready and started—went as far as Allens Grove and staid all night.

Tuesday the 9th Started at 8 o'clock for Davenport and got there at 12M Went to Cook & Sergent and got \$300 of our money changed for gold-paid 1 per cent. Started from there at 4 and got back to Porter's of Hickory Grove at 8 and staid over night.

Wednesday (sic) the 10th Started from Porters at 6 and went on to Round Grove stopped at Keyzers and got breakfast. Bought two saddles for \$9.00 and came on to Mr. Haskins. After dinner fixed up our saddles and bridles and prepared for a tramp southwest

Thursday the 11th was pleasant in the morning – we paid Mr. Haskins \$165.00 and started for Tipton. We soon got out of the grove and came on an immense prairie which stretched on every side as far as the eye could reach. Toward the middle of the forenoon as we were in the middle of the prairie a storm of wind and rain burst upon us and as there was no house tree or object of any kind to shelter us for a mile so we had to take it cool and let it come. We got a complete soaking-but the storm soon passed and the sun came out to dry us. We got in to Tipton at noon and took dinner put some letters in the office-inquired for land to suit us but found none and started on toward Rochester. Tipton is a fine little village situated on a large level prairie and is doing some business for an inland town. We went to Rochester on the Cedar River and crossed the free Ferry which is kept running here to call travelers through. Rochester is a small town and has the appearance of having seen better days. It is going in a decline. Went on to the Quaker settlement and staid over night at an Ohio Quaker named Mathew. Found them to be very fine people. When we came away they refused to make any charge.

Friday the 12th Looked round the settlement for land and took dinner at an old Bachelors. In the afternoon went on towards Iowa City—when within 3 miles of it a heavy shower came on and we had to put up for the night. We had cold hard bread and molasses, and cold water for supper and a bed of prairie hay to sleep on.

Saturday the 13th Was rainy and went on to the City and got in at about 10 o'clock put up at Swens? Hotel. Took a survey of the city. It is situated on the Iowa River on considerable of an elevation-contains a number of public buildings, churches and a large number of Log Houses. There are but very few good dwellings of the first class. The City is scattered over a large tract of land, and appears to have been quite a village for many years as it is intersperced [sic] with old log houses fast going to decay. We left at 3 o'clock and rode until night put up at a New Yorkers just after a severe thunder storm during which we took refuge in an old log Blacksmith shop.

Sunday the 14th was windy went up 18 miles north of the City to look at a farm in the Henderson Settlement to look at 120 acres-40 of timber-25 broke but no fence price \$250.00 Went from there towards Tipton and put up at a Dutch Tavern over night situated in a most splendid tract of country.

Monday the 15th Started for Tipton-crossed the Cedar River at Washington Ferry and passed through the village of Solon which promises to be a flourishing place as soon as they commence building houses. The village is all there excepting the buildings, which will undoubtedly be put up before it gets to be much of a place. We got to Tipton at noon and took dinner and then came back to Postains Grove—got there at ½ past 5 and put up at Mr. Wellses for the night. In the evening Miss Willey & Miss Parker came over and we had a good game of Euchre and spent a pleasant evening with them.

Tuesday the 16th Went over to look at Mr. Porters place and found that he offered it for \$700.00. Went from there to Mr. Parr's and took dinner. He had given up selling his place. Went back to Porter and talked over matters in regard to making a bargain-staid at Mr. Mastens over night.

Wednesday the 17th Was very cold and windy looked over the farm again and concluded a bargain-paid \$700.00 for the place 160 acres of prairie (sic) and 40 of timber. Two log houses on it – 50 acres fenced and 20 acres broke not fenced. One slab stable 1 corn crib-log-two log hay pens. We pay \$222.00 down and the remainder the first of July.

Thursday the 18th Was a very cold rainy day—we went down to Davenport to draw up writings. Did our business with Cook & Sargent-paid Porter \$222 and gave a mortgage & notes for the rest. We put up at the Penn. House at night.

Saturday the 20th The cold weather still continued and towards night a steamer came up and we got on and crossed over to Rock Island-we put up at the Graham House and found miserable fare.

Sunday the 21st It began to thaw and we went down to the river towards night and induced the Ferryman to carry us over by paying him four times the usual fare. The river was frozen between the Illinois shore and Rock Island about two inches thick and we had to take poles to support ourselves and walk farr [sic] enough apart to prevent breaking in. The boatman took our trunks on a hand sleigh and we all started for Rock Island and got there safely—we went up the Island about a mile and loaded up the boat and started. The river was running swiftly and so full of floating ice that the oars could not be used and they had to navigate by pushing on the cakes of ice & at last we got across in safety which was my second perilous voyage across the Mississippi. Staid over night at the Penn House.

Monday the 22nd Went out in the morning and bought a wagon-plough-harness stove and all kinds of utensils for farming & housekeeping—started out at 1 o'clock for our new home and got as far as Allens Grove and staid over night.

Tuesday the 23rd Went on home and found the surveyor there. Fixed up our house and cooked our first meal. It consisted of Indian cakes and ham served up on a shelf with our trunks for seats. Thus began our life in Iowa. We went on a and made a table some benches & put up shelves drew some wood and got fairly to keeping house. We bought a pair of oxen another plow made a drag and cultivator and split about 300 rails and 250 stakes fenced in 15 acres more and put in 3 acres of spring wheat 15 acres of oats 25 of corn. The spring was cold & backward so that most of our corn rotted in the ground and most ruined our crop. We planted the last over about the 15th of June and left about 6 acres where it was nearly all gone. Jo started for the East on the 13th of June to get his money.

The 1852 Iowa State Census was taken between March 1 and July 5.
Joseph H. Gue is listed in Liberty Township, Scott County, Iowa.

*Note: Both Joseph and his brother Benjamin are listed as a head of household. Perhaps this is explained by the existence of two log cabins on the farm they purchased from Porter. Each of them also has a tally for a female and a

total of two. This is not so easy to explain since their "folks" i.e. mother and sister did not come to Iowa until October 1853.

January 1, 1853

In June Jo went down east and got his money was gone about 5 weeks. We got \$500 of Mother & in August went over into Ill. & bought 800 sheep at about \$1.40 per head.

We have raised about 500 bu of oats about 200 bu of corn 120 of wheat 7 w20 of buckwheat & cut about 25 tons of hay. We have 2 good horses 1 cow 1 hog and about 275 sheep. Mother & the children are in Greene Co. & Jerry is teaching School there.

June 1853

Sunday the 5th was pleasant Went up in Cedar County to look for land found a piece to suit us and wrote to Cook & Sargent to enter for us the North West qr of the S.E. qr. Of Sec.9 as the North East qr of the N.E. was entered by Ditz.

February 1854

Wednesday the 22nd was cold got up at 4 o'clock and started for Davenport. Jo & Mary & Lib & I. We got to town about 11:00. I put up at the Le Claire House. In the afternoon went and had Marys Daguerreotype taken. Towards night went over the river and sw the cars come in. The first train that ever came into Iowa came in at 5 o'clock—the engine was decorated with flags wreaths etc. & was received with roar of cannon and cheers. Two other trains came in soon after. We did not stay to hear the speeches the [sic] was such a crowd. Went back to the Le Claire and took supper & then went over to Mr. Walravens and saw Celinda & Mrs. Pearsall. The Hotel was so full that we had to lay on the parlor floor.

Thursday the 23rd Was pleasant Went over the river and saw the cars go out. Came back & went over to the Daguerrean Gallery & had Libs likeness taken. Went

over to Walravens and staid a short time and then started for home. Got home about 5 o'clock & found Kelly Henderson there. Took Lib home and got home about 9 o'clock.

June 1855

Thursday, 28th, was warm. Wm. Willey & Mary and Lib and I went out to Tipton with Jo and Mary Willey who were married. We put up at the Birely house.

Friday, 29th was warm & pleasant. Started from Tipton at 10 o'clock and got to Willeys about ½ past 12. Had a fine company at dinner and a good time after dinner.

October 1855

Land Patent for 160 acres in Guthrie County, IA states Joseph H. Gue, of Cedar County, Iowa.

December 1855

Monday, 31st Mother and Mary & Jerry are in N. Y. Lib & I and David on the old place on Rock Creek & Jo up in Cedar County.

1856 [between March 3-July 7]

Iowa State Census lists Joseph H. GUE and Mary C. GUE in Springfield Township, Cedar County, Iowa. Joseph states he has been a resident of Iowa for 4 years. His age is listed as 25.

1860 August 9

Federal Census lists Joseph H. Gue, Mary C. Gue and Willey in Springfield Township, Cedar County, Iowa.

1878 History of Cedar County, Iowa; page 515 states Joseph operated a store with Thomas Townsend at Springdale. Specific years were not cited.

*Note: Mary C. GUE, sister of Joseph, married a Thomas TOWNSEND.

1860 – 1870 believe carte de visite was taken by Egbert & Cook Photographers in Davenport. [Accession 1997-10]

1869

26 November daughter Katherine Gurney is born in Kansas

1870 July 16

Federal Census lists Joseph H. Gue, Mary C. Gue, M. William [Willey] and baby Kate G. in Ridgeway Township, Osage County, Kansas-Post Office Olivet.

Mother of Joseph, Catherine (GURNEY) GUE dies
Buried West Branch Cemetery, Cedar County, Iowa

1871

Moves to Douglas County, Nebraska

*Source: Andreas 1882 Atlas - Nebraska

1880 June 2

Federal Census lists the family in Union Township, Douglas County, Nebraska

Joseph H. Gue	age 49	farmer	born NY
Mary C. Gue	age 45	house keeper	born Ohio
Willey M. Gue	age 23	druggist	born Iowa
Katie G. Gue	age 10	tend school	born Kansas

1882 Andreas' History of the State of Nebraska; Douglas County Union Precinct.

J. H. GUE, farmer and stock-raiser, Section 17, Irvington P. O., was born and reared in Ontario County, N.Y., and removed to Cedar County, Iowa in 1852, where he followed the agricultural and stock industry for fifteen years. In 1871 he came here and located, and has been actively connected with the stock industry since. In 1855 he married in Tipton, Iowa, to Miss Mary Willey, who was born and reared in Ashtabula County, Ohio. They have a family of one son and one daughter, William M. and Katie G. Mr. Gue has been an active worker in the development of the social life of his locality since coming here.

1889 – 1890

Omaha, Nebraska Directories – J. M. Wolfe & Co.

1889 Location 1 1502 Cass

Location 2 1613 N 19th

Occupation: livery, sale and feed stable

1890 Location 1 1502 Cass

Location 2 1613 N 19th

Business name: City stables

Occupation: Proprietor

1900

Federal Census – Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska

Joseph H. GUE born Apr. 1831 age 69 m45 yrs real estate

Mary C. Gue born Aug 1835 age 64 2 children/2 lvg

Katherine G. GUE born Nov 1870 age 29 single teacher

Son Willey is also in Real Estate in Winside, Wayne Co., Nebraska

Joseph H. GUE???

No further census listing has been found as of 1/2009.

No death or burial information has been located.

No obituary has been located.

1902 Daughter Katherine marries Thomas BOWIE

1906 grandson Joseph Malcolm/Malcolm Joseph BOWIE is born in Washington

1908 grandson Thomas BOWIE is born in Nebraska

1910

Federal Census – Sedgewick Co. Kansas

Thomas BOWIE 44 Married 8 years book keeper

Cathrine 33 Married 8 years

Joseph 4

Thomas 2

Mary C. GUE mother-in-law *Married 49 years 2 child/2 living

There are others on the page quite clearly marked as
Wd for widowed.

Mary C. (WILLEY) GUE

No further census listing has been found as of 1/2009.

No death or burial information has been located.

No obituary has been located.

1914

Omaha Nebraska City Directory
Thomas Bowie, book keeper

1914-1920

Thomas Bowie dies

1920

Federal Census Omaha, Douglas Co., Nebraska

Katherine BOWIE widow

Malcom

Thomas