

FOREWORD

The incidents related in this article,
THE ARGESHEIMER FAMILY
are given from my own knowledge of the
people and events mentioned therein.

(Signed) (Mrs) Anna M. M. Foodick

(Date) June 14th 1937

THE ARGESHEIMER FAMILY
by
MRS. ANNA (ARGESHEIMER) FOSDICK

"My father, John Henry Argesheimer, was an army man. He was also a very talented musician. I know very little of his childhood except that he was born in Germany, February 13, 1836, and that he received his musical education there. He came to the United States when a young man and fought in the Civil War under Generals Meade, McClellan, and Grant. At the end of the war my father did not leave army service as so many others did. For some years after the fighting ended he was stationed at Washington D.C., where he was band leader and frequently gave programs before the President of the United States. On two different occasions he was, as chief musician, detailed on service at ST. Louis (Missouri) Arsenal, which at that time was the United States Cavalry Headquarters where capable musicians were enlisted for the cavalry bands of the army.

"My mother, as Harriet Lavenia Wallace, was born December 26, 1837, at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and grew to womanhood in and near that historical spot. I remember hearing her tell of the time the Rebels made an attack on Carlisle, Pennsylvania. A group of wounded union men, exchanged prisoners they were, had just arrived and were being fed and cared for in the market place by the women of Carlisle, my mother among them. Suddenly there came the boom and rattle of attacking cannons, and shells began bursting over the market. Rebels were firing on the city and the market place was no longer safe even for ministering to the wounded.

"My mother and father were married at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, about 1860. They had five children, namely;

John Charles (Judge Argesheimer, Carey Block, Cheyenne), born

at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, April 23, 1862.

Anna Mary Magdalene (Mrs. C.H.Fosdick, Carey Block, Cheyenne),
born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, January 6, 1864.

Harry, born at Washington, D.C., September 3, 1867, died in
infancy.

Harriet Louise (Mrs. Harry Hodgkin, Huntington Park, California),
born at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1870.

Laura Alice, born at Fort Russell, Wyoming, January 23, 1876,
died in infancy.

"In 1875, my father was sent from St.Louis, Missouri, to Fort D.A.Russell, Wyoming, to take charge of the Third Cavalry Band. We came on a Union Pacific train and I still remember how tiresome the trip was. We were several days enroute. There were many changes from one train to another with long lay-overs each time. The train carried no sleepers, in fact accommodations of any sort were very poor.

"We reached Cheyenne in October and thought it the most desolate place we had ever seen. Small frame buildings with their false fronts covered with garishly painted advertisements, dusty narrow streets, rickety wooden walks in some places and none at all in others, and the whole place absolutely unadorned by trees, lawns, or flowers, is the picture Cheyenne presented to us on first sight. The town was only six or seven years old at that time so it is not surprising that little progress in the way of beautification had been made. But we came here from the beautiful St.Louis arsenal, and crude indeed the frontier town seemed to us.

"Of course, we were not stopping in Cheyenne. We were being