

Another name well known over the years in the Bible Grove township was that of **Sunderman**. William **Sunderman**, a native of Lippe-Deilmold, Germany came to the township in 1839. He was a peddler for a few years traveling between here and St. Louis in a two wheeled vehicle, loaded with goods, mostly jewelry and calico which he sold and he also traded skins and pelts of all kinds.

He settled in Sec. 33 in Bible Grove Township in 1841 and formed a partnership with A. **Houseman**. He built a log storehouse, added to his stock of goods, opened a market and KEPT UP HIS ROUTE BETWEEN HERE AND St. Louis. He sold goods in this manner for about 8 years, after which he settled down to farming and eventually became one of the wealthiest farmers in this county, owning over 1,400 acres. He was married to Mary **Johnson** who bore him 8 children. She died in 1858. His second wife was Catherine **Fopay(y)**. She gave him 5 more children, the youngest of which was Edwin **Sunderman**.

Edwin **Sunderman**, along with his sons, Noel and Orville, half brother Jefferson T. **Sunderman**, A. T. & Samuel **Hardin**, organized the Mutual Telephone Company in 1904-05 in Bible Grove. The Wabash Telephone Co. was organized in Louisville in 1954 with Bible Grove, Louisville and Xenia being the first in the area to receive the new system.

The **Fopay** family, mainly Ella **Fopay Dow**, ran the switchboard for some 35 years.

As I have told you before, Merle **Lacoax Webster** has considerable knowledge about so many things, and especially about Bible Grove. Her late husband, Clayton **Webster** was the great grandson of George Washington **Monical**. She has written down some of her remembrances of the town and the locations of many of the houses and businesses. This is her Bible Grove remembered:

"Will **Lewis**, son of Aline and William, bought the Old **Gould** store and leveled and buried it. In the 1930's, Alfred **Manis** had a Red and White Store between the **Specht** house and the alley. He married Louise **Winterrowd**. Dr. **Shumaker**'s office was in the space between the Blacksmith shop and Alf **Specht**'s house. Next was the blacksmith shop that belonged to Thurman **Colborn**. **Kepley** was next east of the blacksmith shop. **Kepley** had a furniture store originally and a barber shop. At the last, he had a restaurant, and teamed for T. **Gould**.

"In the second block west from the intersection was the home of Philander and Laura **McCollum Gould**; then the **Brook**'s Hotel on Lot 15 where Mavin **Birch**'s house stood. Will **Lewis** has it now and it has been straightened up and painted. Nice looking place. Enfer **Webster** had an office in the two east rooms of the Hotel. He was killed in a car/train wreck in Mason, IL. in 1914.

"On West on the same side of the street was Grover and Mayme **Lewis**. Lola **Sunderman** came next and Henry **Byrnes** had a house in the last space of the block and the first lot of the next block was where the old Bible Grove School stood. Henry lived in the old **Bleeker** Place. **Bleeker** was a blacksmith.