

Dr. Achilles Lamme

Gallatin History Museum



children of Jefferson and Elizabeth (Bird) Edwards. Jefferson Edwards was of English and his wife of Scotch extraction. John Edwards, the grandfather of L. C. Edwards, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his father was a valiant soldier in the American Revolution. Jefferson Edwards and wife now reside on the old homestead in Virginia.

Mr. Edwards resided in Virginia until he was eighteen years old, and he was educated in its public schools. Then his ambition led him to the new west, and in 1884 he became a resident of Montana, first locating in Virginia City, and then devoting four years to ranch work, after which he was for a year identified with mining at Virginia City and Sheridan. In 1896 he engaged in the hotel and livery business in Sheridan, and has since continued successfully in these lines of enterprise. He also gives special attention to buying and selling horses. He has purchased large numbers of horses for the government, and has given satisfaction in his selection of the animals. Mr. Edwards is progressive in his methods, straightforward in all his dealings and enjoys marked popularity in the county and village where he makes his home. He owns valuable realty in Sheridan and is also interested in neighboring placer mines.

A staunch supporter of the Republican party, Mr. Edwards has been an active local worker in the cause, and in 1899-1900 served as a member of the village council of Sheridan. Fraternally he is a popular member of Sheridan Lodge No. 20, A. F. & A. M., and Ora Plata Lodge No. 390, B. P. O. E., at Virginia City. On April 3, 1890, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage to Miss Carrie Ellison, born in Columbus, Ohio, the daughter of William Ellison, who is residing near New Castle, Neb. Mr. Edwards has one son, Fay, born April 11, 1897.

**EDWIN B. LAMME.**—The subject of this review was born in De Kalb county, Mo., May 15, 1857, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people among whom he lives and whom he has served in many civil capacities. He is a son of Achilles and Elizabeth Jane (Oliver) Lamme, the former a native of Warren county, Mo., where he was born July 15, 1822, and the latter of Batesville, Albemarle county, Va., where her life began

November 28, 1828. The great-grandfather of our subject, Robert Lamme, was a native of Bourbon county, Ky., of French descent. His eldest son, William T., was also born in Bourbon county, but removed to Warren county, Mo., in 1803. He was first lieutenant in Nathan Boone's company of rangers, and colonel of a regiment in the war of 1812. He married Frances Callaway, daughter of Flanders Callaway, and granddaughter of Daniel Boone, by whom he had ten children. Achilles Lamme, father of our subject, was the ninth child of Wm. T. and Frances Lamme. He was educated for the medical profession at the St. Louis Medical College; but about the time of his graduation gold was discovered in California, and in 1849, instead of entering on the practice of his profession, he made his way to the land of promise by way of New York and the Isthmus. Returning to Missouri, he was united in marriage October 18, 1852, with Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Oliver Harlowe, daughter of William Nicholas and Mary L. (Bates) Oliver. After his marriage he located at St. Joseph, Mo., and engaged in his profession and merchandising until the spring of 1865, when he started with his family for Montana, taking a stock of goods and embarking on the steamer E. O. Stanard. The boat was wrecked a few miles above Omaha, and he lost his entire stock of goods. The passengers were transferred first to the steamer Hattie May, and soon after, as the water was low, to the Deer Lodge. This brought them to Cow Island, from which place they came by teams to Gallatin valley, Dr. Lamme purchasing a farm twelve miles north of Bozeman. His partner, L. M. Howell, returned to St. Louis, and in the fall of 1866 returned to Montana, bringing a stock of goods. They built a store house on the farm and opened for business, which was continued until 1869. Dr. Lamme then bought Mr. Howell's interest and moved the buildings and merchandise to Bozeman, where he became associated with John S. Mendenhall. While thus engaged in merchandising he did not wish to practice medicine, and would not accept a fee for his services; but there being no other physician in the valley he attended the sick from motives of humanity and his well known kindness of heart, frequently driving thirty or forty miles on a trip. He continued merchandising until his death, which occurred December 22, 1888. In politics Dr. Lamme was a lifelong Democrat, but eschewed public office. He was obliged, however, to serve

his people in several positions of trust, being a member of the territorial legislature one term, a member of the first city council of Bozeman, and held other offices from time to time. He was a high toned gentleman of culture, and his friends were numerous and in evidence. His death was looked upon as a general calamity, and he was universally mourned throughout the valley. His widow is still living in Bozeman. They were the parents of five children, all of whom are living, namely: Florence, the wife of Wm. B. McAdow; Edwin B.; Lora, wife of Francis K. Armstrong; Frances and Georgia.

Edwin B. Lamme, the immediate subject of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Bozeman, supplementing their instruction with a commercial course in San Francisco. After leaving school he was associated in business with his father until 1882, after which he became connected with the Raleigh-Lamme Company and the Gallatin Valley Mercantile Company, remaining with them until 1895, but continued the business in his own name until 1901. He became a stockholder in the Bozeman Milling Company in 1895, and soon after was elected secretary and general manager, a position which he still occupies. In politics Mr. Lamme is a staunch Democrat, and has been the choice of his party for several positions of importance and responsibility. He was chairman of the board of county commissioners from 1886 to 1890; a member of the city council from 1898 to 1900; a member of the Bozeman school board for seven years; and in February, 1901, was appointed by Gov. Toole a member of the executive board of the State Agricultural College, located at Bozeman. Mr. Lamme was married on October 12, 1880, to Miss Susie L. Welch, a native of Huron county, Ohio, and daughter of William and Harriet (Booge) Welch, the former a native of Ithaca, N. Y., and the latter of Pittsford, Vt. They now reside in Bozeman, Mr. Welch having come to Montana in 1864, locating one of the first claims in Alder gulch. His wife and daughter followed him in 1871, and they all removed to Gallatin valley in 1879. Mr. and Mrs. Lamme are the parents of two children: Maurice Allison, born in Bozeman, September 5, 1881, and Clinton Edwin, born December 20, 1883. They and their mother are members of the Episcopal church of Bozeman. Mr. Lamme is a member of Pythagoras Lodge No. 2, K. of P., and of Bozeman Lodge No. 463, B. P. O. E.

**THOMAS B. ELLIS.**—While geographically we shall always have a frontier, the term in its old application is a thing of the past, for the old order of things has given place to the new, and where once the Indian roamed the plains and tented by the side of the mountain streams; where later the typical cowboy rode the open range, and where life was free and primitive, now all is changed, and progress and advancement and development are on every hand. Many of the old-timers sometimes sigh for the days that are gone and for the scenes which marked life on the veritable frontier, but they cannot but view with satisfaction the transition which they have witnessed and to so large an extent have brought about. Among the honored pioneers of Montana, whose memory recalls many stirring incidents and personal experiences of the early days, is Mr. Ellis, now one of the prominent sheepgrowers of the state, his fine ranch property being located in Broadwater county at the veritable head of the great Missouri river.

Mr. Ellis was born in Platte county, Mo., on March 24, 1842, the son of Benedict and Edith (Vaughn) Ellis, natives of Missouri and Kentucky. His paternal grandfather was Jonathan Ellis, born in Wales, whence he emigrated to America and located in Clay county, Mo., where he was extensively engaged in farming until his death, accumulating a valuable property and becoming one of the influential men of the state. Benedict Ellis died about the time his son Thomas was born, and the latter was reared and educated in his native state until his twenty-first birthday, when he entered the employ of John T. Murphy, now one of the most prominent citizens of Montana's capital city, and represented by a portrait and sketch in this work, and engaged in freighting for the Overland Stage Company for nine months. He then returned to Missouri, passed the winter, and in the spring of 1864 set forth for Salt Lake City with a freighting outfit owned by Mr. Murphy. The train reached the Mormon city without interference of the Indians, and there Mr. Ellis took charge of two of Mr. Murphy's freighting teams, with which he came through to Virginia City, Mont., arriving about the 1st of July. He then engaged in freighting between Salt Lake City and Virginia City, until fall, passing the winter forty miles south of Salt Lake City. In the spring he drove a team through to Alder gulch, and engaged in mining in the Summit district, securing claim 41 above discovery, this being the highest claim above that showed

# Dr. Achilles Lamme

born 1832 in Missouri

died 1888

After medical school Lamme joined the gold rush to California, but returned to Missouri to practice medicine and get married. He came to Bozeman in 1865 after losing all his wealth in the Civil War and opened a store with Mendenhall. He did not wish to practice medicine in Bozeman, but being the only doctor in the area, he would attend the sick and never accept payment. His kindness was well known.

LAMME, Achilles

Stone ——— Street ———

Source: Grandfather's collection of photos

Born 1832 in Mo.  
Educated for medical profession  
Arrived Gallatin Valley 1865 with 200 oxen & 30 wagons  
Came up Missouri on steamboat with stack of merchandise  
Boat wrecked near Omaha. Lost all mch. Passengers  
transferred to other boat to Cow Island, from there to  
overland to Bozeman.  
Settled on farm north of Bozeman - 1866 opened a store on  
his farm until 1869  
In 1869 moved store bldg + mch to Bozeman where he  
became associated with John Mendenhall  
Since no other Drs in Valley, he tended the sick but would  
accept no fee  
Died Dec 1888.  
with Nelson Story organized Yellowstone Transportation Co  
to provide transportation for freight + passengers down the Yellowstone

Lamme, Dr. Achilles - Was born Warren County, Missouri, Jul. 15, 1822. He was educated at the St. Louis Medical College. On graduating, instead of starting his practice he went west to California. (1849 - gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill.) However, not across the plains but via New York and the Isthmus of Panama to the promised land at age 27. - 1849

1852 - He returned to Missouri and married on October 18th, - to Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Oliver Harlowe.

They then settled in St. Joseph, Missouri, where he practiced medicine and was a merchandiser, also, until 1865. 13 yrs.

1865 - That year, taking a stock of goods, he started with his family by boat to Montana. But, the boat was wrecked just above Omaha. The stock of goods was entirely lost. So the people transferred to another boat; but shortly they had to transfer to a third boat,

*2 Cow Cr mouth  
1885  
Cow Island  
likely a  
miss print*

- - from the Hattie to the Deer Lodge - because of the shallow water in the river. Ultimately they ended their river trip at Cow Island. I can't locate Cow Island on any of my maps, ~~but likely it is in the vicinity of Fort Benton, which was then the head of navigation on the Missouri.~~ Thence, they travelled by team to Gallatin Valley. Cow Cr. 100 mi E of Ft. Benton

Dr. Lamme then purchased a farm 12 miles north of Bozeman.

His partner, L. M. Howell then returned to St. Louis and in 1866 - the fall did come back with another stock of goods. They built a storehouse on the farm and opened for business which was continued for three years.

1869 - Dr. Lamme then bought Howell's interest and moved bldgs. and merchandise to Bozeman, where he became associated with J. H. Mendenhall.

While thus engaged in merchandising he did not practice and would accept no fees for his treatment of patients. But as there was no other physician in the Valley he attended the sick from motives of humanity. Frequently travelling 30 or 40 miles on such mercy errands. He continued his retail store activities until his death, in 1888, at age 66. Was a democrat, but abstained from public office.

However, he was obliged to serve the people some: - One term as a member of the Territorial Legislature; member of the first City Council of Bozeman; and other offices from time to time.

Dr. Lamme was a cultured gentleman. Five children in the family; Edwin B. 1857; and Lora - married Judge Francis K. Armstrong. Dr. Lamme's mother was a granddaughter of Daniel Boone, - one of my notes says.

The home of Madam Lamme was on the site of the Artemus Apts. which was recently built on SE corner of Willson Ave. and Curtiss Street. Mrs. O. W. Fisher (confined to a wheel chair) was always referred to as Madam, also. This perhaps was custom then with ladies from southern or near southern states. (Madam is merely a polite form of address given to any lady. Madame is a French title used ~~in English~~ to address any married lady; in English it is applied to foreign married ladies of whatever nationality.)

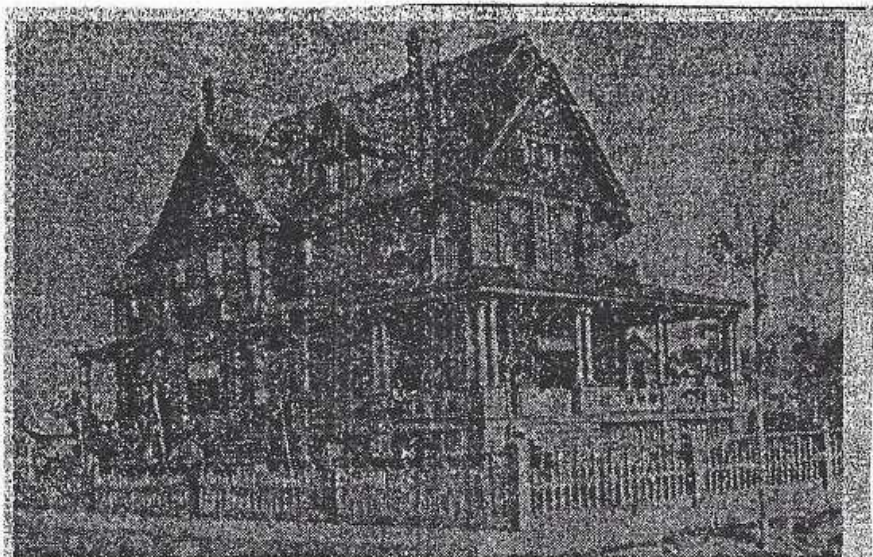
Ed Lamme, the son, was 31 when his father died. Ed built his mother's large home, and also the home at 501 S Grand Avenue, where Judge Armstrong lived. Of course the Judge's wife, Lora, was Ed Lamme's sister.

Dr. Lamme's business was known as "A. Lamme & Co." References to him in my home, during boyhood, was always as "Doc. Lamme". Of course other doctors soon came to live in Bozeman. Lamme and Mendenhall were married to sisters, I've understood.

## DEATH OF DR. LAMME.

A Pioneer of Montana Dies at Bozeman.

*Chronicle:* Dr. A. Lamme passed peacefully away, surrounded by his wife and three of his children, on Saturday morning at half-past nine o'clock. The doctor has been feeble for several years and during the last two has been confined to his house, except on rare occasions, when he ventured to the front yard. The doctor for many years has been the most prominent citizen of this portion of the country. For many years he has been at the head of the largest mercantile business in this valley and was known to every man, woman and child in it. He leaves a wife, one son, Ed. Lamme, of Raleigh, Lamme & Co., and four daughters, Mrs. Wm. McAdow and Mrs. F. K. Armstrong, of Bozeman, and two younger daughters attending school at Philadelphia. The doctor was born in Virginia and in his younger days practiced medicine. He resided for several years at St. Joseph, Mo., and followed steamboating. He came to Montana in 1865. Since that time he followed agricultural, steamboating and mercantile pursuits.



**ED LAMME HOUSE**—Ed Lamme, son of Dr. Achilles Lamme, one of the Bozeman pioneers, built this house at 302 South Wilson. His mother lived in the house alone after the doctor's death. In recent years, the building was used as a college fraternity house. It is now owned by Frank Hoey.

order to discover if goods in large quantities could be transported to troops which might be sent to guard the new railroad. The Major was sent on a second trip in 1875. Forsythe reported favorably on both occasions, and perhaps had a part in the decision to send the troops which resulted in the Custer encounter in 1876. The clearing of the Indians from the Valley resulted, in turn, in the more rapid progress of the railroad.

During the Indian wars of 1876 and 1877, a considerable number of steamers plied the Yellowstone. In 1876, for instance, Captain Marsh brought his *Far West* up the Bighorn to the mouth of the Little Bighorn to receive the wounded soldiers from the Custer fight. In 1877, when Forts Keogh and Custer were being built, one account indicates that there were twenty-four steamboats on the Yellowstone, with fourteen making the run in 1878, nine in 1879, nine in 1880, seven in 1881, and three in 1882, the year the railroad was virtually completed throughout the Valley.

The inhabitants of the Gallatin Valley were continuously active in attempting to develop enough traffic on the Yellowstone to establish a head of navigation which would be a headquarters for shipping, similar to Fort Benton on the Missouri. Such an inland port would make freight rates cheaper for the Gallatin residents. While steamboats were not of great importance on the Yellowstone, a considerable number of boats of the pirogue and mackinaw type were built in the Emigrant Gulch region where timber was available. Each season a large number of people left the mining areas to return east, and the boat makers at Emigrant Gulch supplied these people with small boats which provided quick transportation. W. J. Davies and John Bozeman were in partnership in such an enterprise in 1867. About 1875 Nelson Story and A. Lamme of Bozeman organized the Yellowstone Transportation Company to provide transportation of freight and passengers down the Yellowstone. At this time they were particularly interested in freighting agricultural supplies for the use of the army and railroad camps which were scheduled to come into the valley. Such activities kept up traffic on the river for a number of years. Steamboat navigation on the Yellowstone was less successful than on the

Missouri because of the rapid current, shallow stream, and the numerous rapids in the river. The need for steamboats was not great since the population was thin, the wide valley furnished a good wagon road, and the railroad was built into the region rather soon after settlement began. In the main, therefore, the Yellowstone Valley, rather than the river, was the important avenue of travel."

#### THE WESTERN WATERS

A very interesting and little-known story of water transportation in Montana is to be found in the navigation of the region of the Clark's Fork of the Columbia, Flathead Lake, and the Kootenai River. High ambitions were held for travel on the Clark's Fork because of the difficulty of crossing the high mountains in the region, and where precipitous mountains did not block the way, swamps hindered progress, particularly in the spring and in wet seasons. The Oregon Steam Navigation Company, which operated boats on the lower Columbia, built the *Mary Moody* in 1865 for navigation on the upper river. In 1866, this boat came up the Clark's Fork from Lake Pend Oreille to the Cabinet Landing just inside the present state limit. In 1867, two other boats ran in relays, carrying substantial numbers of passengers and quantities of freight. The *Cabinet* ran from Cabinet Landing to the Rock Island Rapids, and the *Missoula* provided the transportation on to Thompson Falls. These boats continued to run at intervals until 1870, when the drop in mining activity and the improvement of roads made the river travel unnecessary."

The early settlers in the region north of Flathead Lake found travel and transportation extremely difficult. The area was especially attractive for agricultural purposes, but the only means of access to the region was by way of the Missoula passes, thence northward. The immigrants arrived at the southern end of Flathead Lake, to be faced with extremely difficult terrain bordering the lake on either side. A trace of a highway was finally carved out of the hills on the west side of the lake, but it was tortuous. Many people dreamed of travel by water over the some sixty-five miles of lake and Flathead River