

Mary Haley Hayden

Mary Hayden is my 3x great-grandmother. Mary Haley was her maiden name, then she married my grandfather after her husband Patrick Hayden was killed in the uprising. Sadly, the baby Catherine Hayden (Katie) whom she carried the 17 miles to Fort Ridgley died the next year, in January 1863.

The following month, in February 1863, Mary Hayden married Henry Converse, who was a widower from Winona County. Henry Converse worked as a moulder, foundryman, farmer, and owner of a billiard hall as the Converse family moved from Winona to La Crosse, Wisconsin, then back to Minnesota. In November 1868, the Converses settled in Waseca County where Henry bought 80 acres of land and resumed farming.

Henry and Mary Converse had three children together: Harriet Belle (b. 16 Oct 1865), Mark Wallace (b.16 Nov 1868), and Mildred Elizabeth (b. 16 Oct 1874). Mary died on 1 Oct 1924, at the age of 81.