



#### **Tidbit No. 44**

Not just a tidbit this time, but I also wanted to let you know about a special exhibit in the Henry F. Schricker Library in Knox and the North Judson/Wayne Township Library in North Judson. The Exhibit is called *Endangered Heritage*. It is sponsored by the Starke County Historical Society and is on loan from the Indiana Historical Society.

*Endangered Heritage*, a collections care advocacy exhibit from the Indiana Historical Society, opened at the Henry F. Schricker Library in Knox on March 6 and will be there until April 1, 2012, and then in the North Judson Library from April 1 through May 1, 2012. The purpose of the exhibit is to educate local communities about the need for good collections stewardship. It also gives examples of the dangers to objects in collections and information about caring for collections.

It is a good exhibit and gives many ideas about preserving the family heirlooms which you may want to pass on to your children in the future, or items you may want to donate to the Starke County Historical Society.

For the last couple of years, I have been taking photographs of items in the house and writing up a description of them so when we are gone, our children will have some information about those items. They may not want to keep them, but at least they will have some limited knowledge about them. I have often thought of times that I should have asked my folks more about certain things, and of course now it is too late. Attached is an example of one of the pages that I have included in a book I gave to our children for Christmas. Perhaps I can encourage some of you to write down some of the history of your family for your descendents.

Jim Shilling  
Starke County Historical Society

<http://www.starkehistory.com>

<http://www.scpl.lib.in.us/historical/>**Flora Spiker Shilling School bell** – Oct 2010

Flora Spiker was a teacher in the public schools in Starke County for several years. We don't know which schools that she taught in, but probably in Center Township or Knox Schools. She lived on the southwest corner of what is now 200 N and US 35 with her parents (the area was known as Spiker's Hill). Her Indiana license is dated


June 3, 1885 at the age of 17 (see photo below). Records indicate, however, that her family (William and Nancy Hardesty Spiker) didn't come to Starke County from Ohio until 1887. Had they anticipated the move and moved her here early to stay with relatives or friends? On May 17, 1887, she married Edgar Shilling.



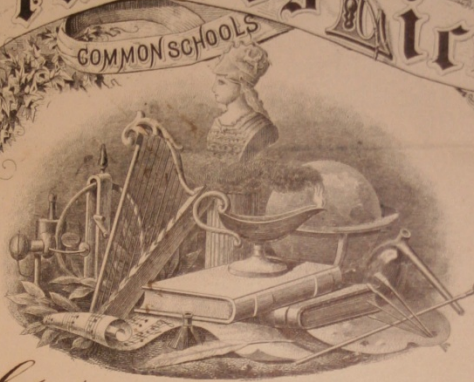
THE HOPE OF OUR COUNTRY

# Teacher's License

COMMON SCHOOLS



STATE OF  
INDIANA.



COUNTY  
of  
*Stark*

*Mora Spiker* having presented satisfactory evidence of good moral character and having been duly examined is found to possess a knowledge which is sufficient to enable her successfully to teach in the common schools of the State. Orthography, Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, Geography, English, Grammar, Physiology and U.S. History and to Govern a School is hereby licensed to teach in the Public Schools of this County for the term of *24* months from this date.

	GRADE	
1. Orthography	<i>100%</i>	
2. Reading	<i>100%</i>	
3. Writing	<i>95%</i>	
4. Arithmetic	<i>95%</i>	
5. Geography	<i>85%</i>	
6. Grammar	<i>85%</i>	
7. Physiology	<i>85%</i>	
8. U.S. History	<i>85%</i>	
9. Theory	<i>95%</i>	
10. Success	<i>100%</i>	
General Average	<i>98%</i>	

Professional Interest

Neatness of M.S.S. *95%*

Attended last County Inst. *4* days

Has taught *4* months

Takes Educational Journal

(The items in this column, do not enter into the general average, but indicate the standing and interest of the applicant in his Profession.)

**EXPLANATIONS.**

1. For those who have never taught, or whose success is unknown to the Superintendent in making the general average the item Success should be omitted.

2. A General Average of 70 percent, not falling below 60 percent in any one of the first 9 items, entitles the applicant to a 6 months license.

80	65	10	A
90	75	12	B
95	80	24	C
		36	D

3. No Certificate is granted for a longer period than 12 months to an applicant who has never taught.

4. The above standard of License was recommended by the State Board of Education and adopted by the State Convention of County Superintendents held at Indianapolis June 26-27, 1883.

*June 3<sup>rd</sup>*

188*5*

*H. C. Rogers*  
County Superintendent.