

Pioneer brotherhood

Six sons of William Bird, a Scottish immigrant, came with their father to Fairmont after the Civil War to homestead a farm on the west side of Budd Lake. By the time of the reunion in 1906 when this photo was taken, one had moved farther west, one had returned to the town in New York where the family lived prior to the war, and one — John P. Bird — had gone to LaCrosse, Wisconsin, to become the superin-

tendent of schools there. John's teaching career, however, had begun in Fairmont, occasioning a scholarship grant to the school district which eventually was turned over to the Citizen's Scholarship Foundation. The four brothers seated were all Civil War veterans who saw considerable action during the conflict. (Photo courtesy Martin County Historical Society)