

Charles Henry “C. H.” Case

Charles Henry Case was born 18 May 1857 in Granby, Hartford, Connecticut. He was the third of five children of Philo Case and Olive Antoinette Case. Charles’ father was a merchant in Granby.¹ His mother died² when Charles was five years old, and he went to stay with an aunt and uncle for a while. His father never remarried, and by 1870, Charles and his siblings were back living with their father, farming in Barkhamsted, Litchfield, Connecticut, near extended family.³ Charles attended the Connecticut State Normal school.⁴ After his graduation, he decided to go west to seek his fortune.

Along the way, he stopped to earn money for his journey. In Franklin Township, Portage, Ohio, he met a young lady named Addie Stewart. When he continued his journey, he and Addie wrote letters to each other. Charles stopped in Georgetown⁵, Colorado, where he mailed a letter to Addie in April 1880.⁶ On the 1880 census, Charles was a miner, living in Brownville, Clear Creek, Colorado.⁷ For the next two years, he mailed letters to Addie from Silver Plume⁸, Clear Creek, Colorado,⁹ where he apprenticed as a clerk in a drug store.¹⁰ In October 1882, he was staying at a hotel in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah Territory.¹¹ He mailed several letters to Addie from December 1880 until February 1884.¹²

By May 1884, Charles was in Silver Reef, Washington, Utah Territory. It was there that he either bought (or operated) Julius Wagner’s drug store¹³ which was located Center and Main Streets next to the Elk Horn Saloon.¹⁴ Charles continued to write letters to Addie until May 1886. At that point, he traveled back to Ohio and married Adeline Eliza Stewart on 19 August 1886.¹⁵ They had been writing letters for 16 years and were both 29 years old at the marriage. They eventually had five children together.

Addie came back to Silver Reef with Charles¹⁶, but she was quite a proper lady and did not care for the saloons or the gun-wearing men in the West. In 1888, Addie was expecting their first child, and returned to live with her parents in Ohio. Charles continued to run the drug store in Silver Reef until 1889.¹⁷

¹ United States Census, 1860.

² Connecticut Deaths and Burials, 1772-1934.

³ United States Census, 1870.

⁴ History of Ashtabula County, William W. Williams, 1878, p. 904.

⁵ Georgetown began as a mining camp in 1859, is known as the Silver Queen of the Rockies, and still offers over 200 Victorian houses buildings today.

⁶ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

⁷ United States Census, 1880.

⁸ Silver Plume, incorporated 1880, is a neighboring town of Georgetown. It was named from a poem written by a town hotel owner and newspaper editor.

⁹ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

¹⁰ History of Ashtabula County, William W. Williams, 1878, p. 904.

¹¹ *Salt Lake Herald*, 19 October 1882, p. 5.

¹² Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ *Silver Reef Miner*, 1 October 1879, p. 1 through ; 27 August 1881, p. 1; 8 October 1881, p. 1; 5 November 1881, p. 1; 24 December 1881, p. 1; 7 January 1882, p. 1; 4 February 1882, p. 1; 15 March 1882, p. 1; 24 March 1882, p. 2; 3 April 1882, p. 2.

¹⁵ Ohio County Marriages, 1789-2013.

¹⁶ *Salt Lake Herald*, 28 August 1886, p. 5

¹⁷ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

Two photographers, Crockwell and Ottinger, came to Silver Reef from Salt Lake City. Charles happened to know both of them from his time up north. They asked him to be in some of their photographs. One of those images was taken in Mrs. Grambs' Cosmopolitan Restaurant (see in photo section). Charles mailed a copy of the photo to Addie and explained the picture in his letter. Charles also sent Addie a copy of a photo with his horse and dog, Pluto, by the saloon. He mentioned in the letter that he was planning to sit on the horse for the photo, but the dog was not happy with that decision!¹⁸

In 1889, Charles returned to Ohio, and he and Addie moved to Jefferson, Ashtabula, Ohio. The town drug store was for sale, and since Charles didn't really care for the town, he offered an extremely low price, which to his surprise was accepted. His store on Chestnut Street carried a fine line of drugs, sundries, stationery and other merchandise. An 1893 invoice from the Frederick Stearns and Company Manufacturing Pharmacists of Detroit documented a shipment of tansy pills, pile ointment, sweetgum itch ointment, unique hair dye, headache cure, cocoanut hair oil, and cold cream".¹⁹

Charles ended up combining two drug stores there. When he retired, his son took over the store, and later his grandson. Three generations of Cases ran the drug store in the same building for almost 100 years -- until 1984 when it fell to competition from Rite-Aid.²⁰ In 1898, Charles was listed as a druggist in a book called *Principal Diseases of the Horses*.²¹ On the 1900 and 1910 censuses, he was a druggist, living with his wife and four, and then five, children in Jefferson.²² He worked as a druggist in Jefferson for 47 years.²³ He was a member of the Congregational Church and the Masonic lodge. He served as mayor and a member and president of the Jefferson board of education for 15 years.²⁴ He died on 21 April 1936 in Jefferson and buried in the Oakdale cemetery. Addie died just a year later and was buried near Charles.²⁵

As his descendants cleaned out the store in 1984, they found many antiques in the second-floor warerooms, including antique glass bottles, patent medicines, toiletries, as well as store and household furniture. Kerosene lamps still hung on metal brackets in the corners of some of the rooms. An old calendar from the 1890s had been carefully wrapped in plastic to keep it clean. Everything was nicely preserved but had an ample layer of dust and soot.²⁶

¹⁸ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

¹⁹ [Rarebooklink.com pages/books/98-1277/letterhead-from-the-frederick-stearns-and-co-manufacturing-pharmacists-of-detroit](http://Rarebooklink.com/pages/books/98-1277/letterhead-from-the-frederick-stearns-and-co-manufacturing-pharmacists-of-detroit)

²⁰ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.

²¹ *The Principal Disease of the Horse: Causes, Symptoms and Treatment*, by H. S. Bossart, 1898, p. 71.

²² United States Census, 1900, 1910.

²³ *The Retail Druggist*, Vol. 25, Issue 1919; United States Census, 1920, 1930.

²⁴ *Engineering News*, 1916, 75:12, p. 192; *History of Ashtabula County*, William W. Williams, 1878, p. 905.

²⁵ Ohio Death, 1908-1953.

²⁶ Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter.



C H Case with his horse and dog Pluto (Silver Reef Museum)



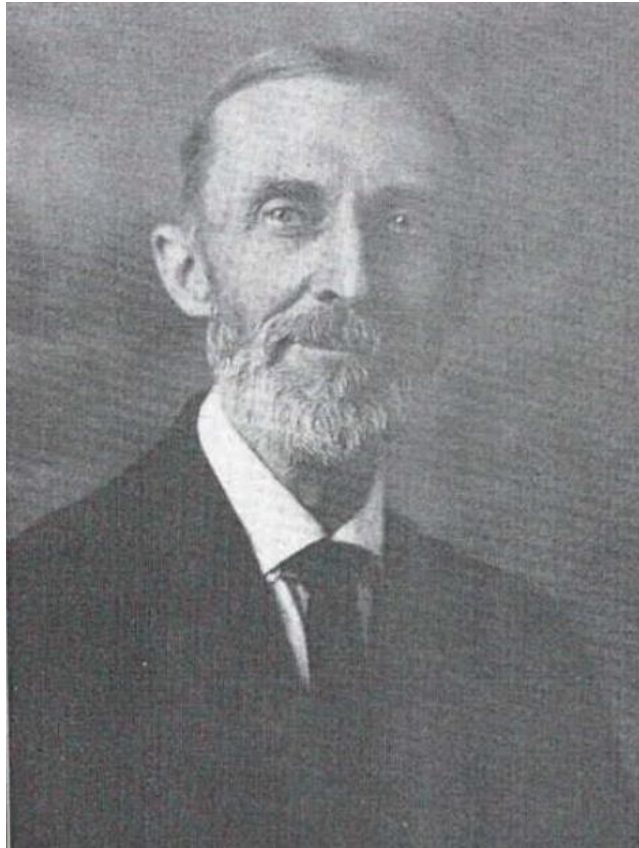
Interior of the Cosmopolitan Restaurant, 1880s. Left to right: William O Carbis, Margaret Grambs, photographers Crockwell and Ottinger, Charles Case (*Expedition*, Vol. 30, No. 2, p. 62)



Left to right: Charles Stewart, Addie, Adeline, Olive, C. H., Chester, Claribel
(Image from Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter)



C. H. and Addie with some of their grandchildren in their front yard
(Image from Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter)



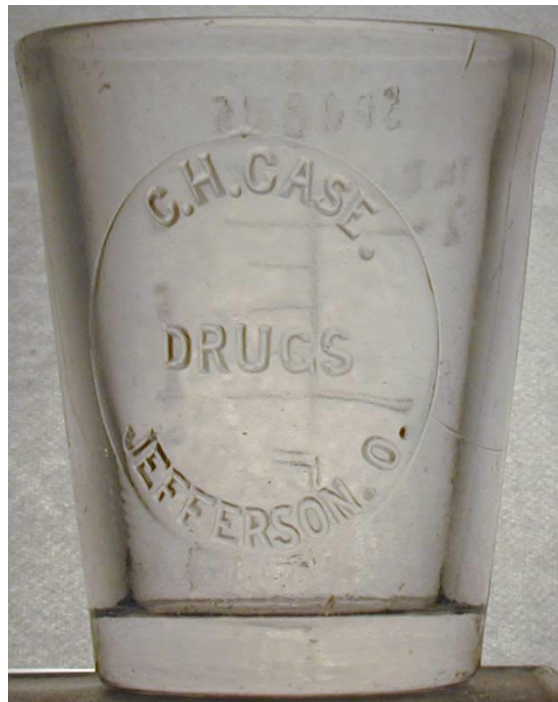
C. H. Case (Image from Susan Fabrizi, great granddaughter)



(image from etsy.com)



A vintage Rum and Quinine Hair Tonic bottle, nine inches tall with the original label and a brass-toned metal stopper showing C. H. Case, druggist of Jefferson, Ohio (image from worthpoint.com/worthopedia/vintage-rum-quinine-hair-tonic-bottle-1754318279)



A dose cup marked with C. H. Case (Image from bergsengs.com/3_My_Ohio.html)



(Image from *Findagrave.com*)