Matthew Drisdale was born in Chesterfield, Yorkshire, England, July 14th, 1815. He died in Linden, Iowa County, Wis., April 13th, 1898.

He received his early education in a boys' school in his native valley, in England. This school was founded and endowed by Queen Elizabeth, and one of the first trustees of this school was an ancestor of our Drisdale.

Matthew Drisdale first came to Wisconsin in 1845, and after joining the Rock River Conference...
If the Methodist Episcopal church was sent to his first circuit, which was the whole of Wayne county. He lived in the saddle, going from settler's cabin to settler's cabin, gathering them together for services at some cabin on Sunday, eating and sleeping any way, and any where. Some times with settlers some times with Indians. His health broke under this severe strain, and on this account he was persuaded by friends to join a group of young men going to
California in the autumn of 1849. They went by boat to Aspinwall from New York, crossed the isthmus of Panama partly by boat and partly by horseback and embarking at Panama City for San Francisco.

His democratic remains in California over two years and then returned to England, where he was ordained in April 1853, to Mary Anne Mann of York. There is one surviving child of this marriage: Annie, the wife of Howard I. Stickney of Madison.