

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 23 ST. JOHNS, MI 48879

# Clinton County Trails

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March 2001

Volume 16, Number 1

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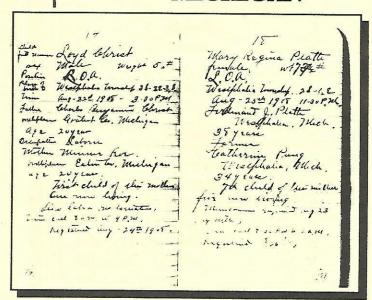
Myma Van Epps Archivist

#### NEWSLETTER

Myrna Van Epps Kim Sperry Co-Editors

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# BIRTH RECORDS OF DR. GUY H. FRACE 1907-1913 CLINTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN



The archives holds the book in which Dr. Guy H. Frace recorded the births he attended in the Westphalia area. There are about 150 births documented including the details he needed to register these births with the county. The births are listed on the following page.

Name of Child	Date of Birth	
Arens (died unnamed)	24 Aug 1910	F
Arens, Mary Katherine	26 Jan 1909	F
Arens, Romilda Josephine	21 Dec 1912	F
Arens, Valerien Albert	20 Sep 1912	M
Baker, Dorothy Elizabeth	25 Jul 1911	F
Baker, Richard Henry	12 Nov 1911	M
Barker, Helenia Anna Mary	18 Feb 1908	F
Barker, Loretta Anna	12 Jan 1913	F
Barker, Roman Englebert	18 Feb 1910	M
Bauer, Elizabeth Mary M.	21 Jul 1913	F
Baur, Frank Carl	13 Oct 1910	M
Baur, Laura Helene	23 Apr 1909	F
Beach, Daisy Leona	16 May 1912	F
Bedenbender, Raymond Joseph	+	M
Belen, Anastacia Elizabeth	30 Sep 1909	F
Belen, Norbert Christopher	20 Jan 1908	M
Belen, Richard Albert	14 Jan 1913	M
Belen, Rita Pauline	12 Mar 1913	F
Bengel, Edward Peter	20 Nov 1909	M
Bengel, Margaret	27 Jul 1911	F
	19 Mar 1912	M
Biergan, Herman Joseph	5 Dec 1912	F
Blundy, Gertrude	2 Jan 1913	M
Bohr, Edwin John	22 Aug 1908	M
Christ, Loyd	29 Jan 1908	F
Droske, Margaret Anna	<del></del>	F
Fedewa, Agnes Hildegard	21 Jan 1913	F
Fedewa, Antoinette Margaret	27 Sep 1911	F
Fedewa, Christina	13 Oct 1907	-
Fedewa, Harold Albert	9 Sep 1908	M
Fedewa, Harold Nicholas	4 Dec 1912	M
Fedewa, Herman	23 Nov 1910	M
Fedewa, Isadore Frank	24 Sep 1910	M
Fedewa, John William	28 Mar 1912	M
Fedewa, Laura Anna	6 Jul 1909	F
Fedewa, Leonard Karl	17 May 1909	M
Fedewa, Marcella Mary	11 May 1911	F
Fedewa, Roman Joseph	5 Jul 1910	M
Fedewa, Sylvester Edward	1 Mar 1912	M
Feldpausch, Esther Elizabeth	15 Jul 1911	F
Fink, Alfred Edward	14 Jul 1911	M
Fink, Elinora Louise	27 Apr 1909	F
Fisher, Robert John	23 Oct 1910	M
Fox, Walter John	4 Jul 1912	M
Frace, Henry Guy	13 Oct 1912	M
Freund, Irwin Peter	28 Jul 1910	M
Freund, John Clarence	04 Jun 1908	M
Freund, Joseph Robert	18 Sep 1912	M
Frey, Mabel Catherine	14 Nov 1910	F
Gross, Lillian Threaesia	6 Jan 1912	F
Gross, Margaret Gertrude	05 Oct 1907	F

Name of Child Date of Bir	
Harr, Marvin Joseph 27 May 191	1 M
Harr, Melvin William 27 May 191	1 M
Hengesbach, Clarence Edward 12 Dec 190	9 M
Hengesbach, Francis Anthony 30 Aug 1913	2 M
Hengesbach, Lillian 02 Apr 1913	} F
Hufnagel, Marion Elizabeth 8 Dec 1910	F
Hufnagel, Walter Peter 09 Apr 1913	3 M
Kloeckner, Arthur Anthony 4 Feb 1910	M
Kloeckner, Harold John 17 Jan 1909	M
Kloeckner, Helena 17 Apr 191	I F
Kolp, Rita Thresia 17 Jul 1913	F
Lehman, Englebert 2 Aug 1911	M
Lehman, Lillian Anna 2 Dec 1911	F
Lehman, Raymond Jacob 26 Sep 190	9 M
Lenneman, Lorina Caroline 21 Sep 190	
Lenneman, Victor Francis 23 Mar 191	
Lennemann, Albert Anthony 11 Jul 1912	
Lennemann, Norman Joseph 9 May 1910	
Martin (stillborn) 17 Aug 190	
Martin, Ambrose Francis 28 Nov 191	
martin, magazine	F
	-
incomor, incomy	
Platte, Alphonse Ferdinand 5 Sep 1909	-
Platte, Bertha Ottillia 1 Feb 1910	-
Platte, Ester Theresia 04 Mar 191	
Platte, Frances Catherine 09 Apr 191	-
Platte, Francis William 21 Aug 191	
Platte, Leon Herman 4 Oct 1910	
Platte, Marion Margaret 4 May 191	
Platte, Mary Regina 25 Aug 190	
Pung, Florian Joseph Anthony 24 May 19	
Pung, Magdaline 16 Feb 191	-
Pung, Matilda 5 Aug 1912	
Radamacher, Lillian Dorothy 20 Feb 19	
Rademacher, Sylvester Christ 26 Mar 190	
Schaefer, Kenneth Loyd 9 Dec 1913	
Schafer, Catherine Loretta 23 May 19	
Schafer, Lorena Marie 31 Jul 191	
Schafer, Marion Rosa 4 Jun 1912	
Schmidt, Isadore Michael 29 Dec 19	
Schmidt, Isadore William 30 Jul 191	
Schneider, Clarence John 18 Feb 19	-
Schneider, Clemens Mathias 25 Sep 19	
Schneider, Dorothea Anna 27 May 19	11 F
Schneider, Edward Anthony 21 Jul 190	9 M

Name of Child	Date of Birth	MIE
Schneider, Herman Mathias	10 Nov 1907	М
Schneider, Leonard Peter	20 Apr 1909	M
Schneider, Raymond Anthony	11 Nov 1907	М
Schrauben, Adeline Regina	29 Nov 1909	F
Schrauben, Agnes Marie	13 Nov 1911	F
	9 Feb 1912	F
Schrauben, Dorothy Gertrude	9 Nov 1910	M
Schrauben, Harold William	30 Jan 1913	F
Simon, Fidelis Carolina		M
Simon, Floran Carl	21 Mar 1910	M
Simon, Harold Peter	5 Sep 1909	F
Simon, Laura Mary	19 Aug 1913	1
Simon, Rewella Katrina	13 Oct 1907	F
Sines, Ruth Caroline	08 Aug 1913	F
Smith, Catherine Mary	20 Apr 1912	F
Smith, Charles William	21 Aug 1909	M
Smith, Edmund John	25 Aug 1907	M
Smith, Frank	11 Jul 1910	M
Smith, Helena Rosalia	28 Dec 1912	F
Smith, Herbert William	5 Dec 1908	M
Smith, Leonard John	22 Nov 1907	M
Smith, Louis Michael	5 Jul 1911	M
Smith, Roman Anthony	23 Jul 1913	M
Smith, William Frederick	2 Dec 1912	M
Snitgen (died unnamed)	10 Jul 1913	M
Sontag, Aurelia Maria	27 Jul 1912	F
Spitzley, Alfred Frank	26 May 1909	M
Spitzley, Paulina Rosa	2 Jun 1908	F
Steppig, Victor John	7 Apr 1911	M
Stump, Chester Frank	21 Jan 1908	M
Stump, Herbert Anthony	6 May 1909	M
	16 Apr 1909	M
Stump, Louis Alfred	18 Nov 1909	M
Stump, Peter Edmund	27 Jan 1912	F
Stump, Wilheminia Matilda	17 Mar 1912	F
Thelen, Bernita Mary		M
Thelen, Charles John	26 Jul 1912	F
Thelen, Clara Catherine	30 Dec 1912	-
Thelen, Lorena Catherine	27 May 1911	F
Thelen, Norbert Joseph	19 Mar 1913	M
Thelen, Robert Louis	31 Oct 1912	M
Wacker, Alfred Anthony	19 Mar 1908	M
Weiber, Aldel- Elanora	15 Sep 1912	F
Weiber, Alfred Edward	5 Sep 1912	M
Weiber, Beatrix Milberg-	23 Jul 1909	F
Weiber, Magdalina Anna	28 Feb 1913	F
Williams, Perlee Charles	6 Jul 1911	M
Wohlfert, Basilius August	22 Jun 1908	M
Wohlfert, Cyrillus Frank	2 May 1910	M
Wohlfert, Dorothy Margaret	13 Apr 1913	F
Wohlfert, Ester Lurelia	26 Aug 1912	F
Zimmer, Celia	13 Oct 1910	F
		Total American
Zimmer, Henry	9 Aug 1912	M
Zimmer, Mary	24 Apr 1913	F



### Dr. Guy H. Frace

edited from the *Clinton Co. Rep.-News*, 29 June 1950 Dr. Guy H. Frace, 76, of St. Johns, the oldest practicing physician in Clinton Co., died 29 June 1950. The well-known "country doctor" had been practicing medicine for more than 52 years.

In May, 1948, he was honored by Wayne - University College of Medicine Alumni Association as one of 10 surviving members of the 1898 class at the Detroit College of Medicine. In Sept. of that same year, Dr. Frace was honored by the Michigan Medical Society for his 50 years of practice. He was a member of the initial medical staff at Clinton Memorial Hospital 23 years ago.

Dr. Frace was married to Miss Milcah Campeau in Saranac in 1901, and she preceded him in death on Feb. 26, 1949.

Following his graduation for the Detroit College of Medicine in 1898, Dr. Frace went to Grand Rapids and served for a year as house physician at Butterworth Hospital. The following year he entered private practice in Grand Rapids. In 1907 he moved to Westphalia and continued his practice there until 1914, when he came to St. Johns.

Surviving are a son, **Guy**, **Jr**., of St. Johns and a daughter, Mrs. **Amory Cotchett** of Wyandott. Burial was in Mt. Rest Cemetery.

# PAINE-GILLIAM-SCOTT LOANS CAMPAU STATUE

By Catherine Rumbaugh

Detroit's 300 year history is a part of Clinton County's legacy. Preserved at the Clinton County Historical Society's Paine-Gilliam-Scott MUSEUM are portraits, photos, a statue, family history, and genealogy of the Detroit family of Joseph Campau. The items were a gift of the Episcopal Church of St. Johns, who inherited the estate of **Dr. Guy and Milcah Campau Frace.** 

Milcah, known as Milly and Dr. Guy Frace lived in Grand Rapids, Westphalia and moved to St. Johns around 1914, living at 408 E. Walker Street.

Milly's grandfather was Joseph Campau, whose youngest son, Alexander Timothy Campau, was her father.

The Campau name had arrived earlier to Clinton County. One of Joseph's nephews, **George**, was sent to establish an Indian Trading Post on the Maple River. George arrived in 1826 in the area that became Maple Rapids.

The gifts of the Campau-Frace family are artifacts of our County's important early history and one the Museum is proud to own.

The Detroit Historical Museum heard of the material the Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum had in their possession through the Michigan History Magazine in which we were mentioned in an article on Campau.

Our Campau 30" statuette, crafted by master sculptor Julius Melchers, is on loan to the Detroit Historical Museum for two years for the exhibit "30 WHO DARED" commemorating the celebration of Detroit's 300th birthday. Joseph Campau (fur trader and Detroit's largest land owner of the early 19th Century: John Askin (early businessman, fur trader and civic leader); Julius Melchers (master sculptor and teacher who opened an art school in 1858) and 27 others are featured in this exhibit.

### **RECENT ACQUISITIONS**

- Scrapbook documenting Clinton Co. Cemetery Restoration Project 1999-2000; by Betty Driscoll
- Descendants of Thomas Kenney, "Sir Knight;" by Becky Idzkowski; 2000.
- The Loyalist John Partelo of NY & Quebec...; by Janet Partlow & Mary Malland; 1996.
- Family History of Franz Feldpausch & Christina Goerge; by Marjory (Schmitz) Platte; 1993.
- Family History of Peter Joseph Schmitz
   & Elisabetha Kruecher (Mueller); ; by
   Marjory (Schmitz) Platte; 1997.
- Family History of Eberhard Platte & Theresia Boltes; ; by Marjory (Schmitz) Platte; 1987.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Scrapbook; by Ray & Goldie Moore.
- Alward Lake Cemetery Aid Cook Book; 1940's.
- History of The Plowman School District, by Charity (Van Dyke) Pearce.
- ...; St. Johns News, 2 June 1898.
- St. Johns High School students & teachers; photo; 1921 w/indentification.
- Lineage of Francis Cooke to Douglas
   C. Huggett (Soc. of Mayflower membership)
- Family group sheets of Eldridge E. & Amanda Susan (Tyler) Levan;
   Anson Lyman & Mary E. (Scott)
   Tyler; and Palmer Cornelius & Augusta Ann (Tyler) Parsons,
   compiled by Stuart B. Tyler.
- Ernest F. Henning Letters, by Merritt and Dorothy Scharnweber.
- Family History of Chester E. Crosby,
   by Ginger Crosby.
- Pedigree charts of Loyal James Laird and Joyce Carol LaFlame

**Members Offer Help** 

Joyce C. LaFlame-Laird, 101 Bejac Circle, Battle Creek, MI 49017-1717. jclaird3@home.com offers to do look-ups in Calhoun Co., MI.

**Douglas C. Huggett**, (721 East Roberta, Waukesha, WI 53186 <u>Huggy@execpc.com</u> sent the following message:

"I have finished a genealogy of the Taber line. I have been accepted into the Mayflower Soc. of Plymouth, MA (State #1117, General #68800)... I noticed that many connections were in Clinton Co. and many other individuals in Clinton Co. are eligible to join the Mayflower Soc. also. They can use my application and add to it...The Clinton Co. eligibles would be those who can prove direct descendents to the following:"

Taber, Moses Dennis & Sally (Bancroft)

Easton/Eaton, Irwin MacIntosh & Alvira (Taber)

Eaton, Clell Irving & Maude (Gage)

Huggett, Clare Cecil (M.D.) & Madelyn Alvira (Eaton)

Mr. Huggett's application and other genealogical material compiled by him is on file and the archives.

**Family Group Sheets** 

See the family group sheets on pages 6 & 7 which were prepared by **Stuart B. Tyler**, 1206 Bonnie Lane, Cleveland, OH 44124. Mr. Tyler also supplied a chart on the **Palmer Cornelius & Augusta Ann** (**Tyler**) **Parsons** family and the Michigan marriage record of **Eldridge Levan & Amanda Tyler**—all of which are on file at the archives.

# FIRST TAXICAB TO COME TO ST. JOHNS "St. Johns News, 9 January 1910"

Retrieved by Hal Cogswell

The first taxi-cab to be added to the large number of horseless carriages owned in St. Johns arrived in the city yesterday from Grand Rapids. It is for Mrs. Ida H. Rawson and is a beauty. It is a four-passenger cab, finished outside in dark blue the inside upholstered in a pretty grey. has all the up-to-the-minute improvements, runs by electricity and the interior and lamp lights are four-candle power light bulbs. The batteries develop 18 horsepower and it can step along at about an 18-mile clip. The cost of such a wagon is from \$2,800 to \$3,000 according to interior finish and this one looks plenty good enough to come in either class

> New Location for Genealogist/Society Meetings

 $\times\!\!\times\!\!\times\!\!\times\!\!\times\!\!\times\!\!\times\!\!\times$ 

Clinton County Genealogist (meetings will now be held at (the First Bank, located (downtown St. Johns on the (1st Monday of each month at (7:30 p.m.

Hope to see you there!

Historical Society Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. At First Bank the first Monday of January, April, July & October. om At, Family Group Sheet by The Everun Publishers. O Box 368, Logan, UT 84321. Publishers of The conditional Publishers of a the catalogue with list with the complex of many genedicated add.

	$\Lambda$ $I$ $\overline{I}$						
F	AMILY GROUP NO	, ,	Husband's Ful		son Lyma		<u> </u>
	This information Obtained From:	Data 0	Day Month Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	4dd, Info. on Husband
4	Descendants of Job Tyler"	Birth	8 Nov 1808	Wilmington	Windham	VT	
		Chr'nd			1.1.1		
	1840 census Leicester NY	Marr.	c. 1833	<b>A</b> 11	Livingston	NY	
	1350 - Avon "	Death	5 Aug 1868	Ovid	Clinton	MI	
•	1960 " Parties "	Burial			Grave Cemeter		L.
	1350 - Philadelphia PA	Places	of Residence W. Av. on A	14 1831 Leiceste	LINYISHO AVONN		
	1360 11 a K	Occupa	COCOCI	Church Affiliation		Military Red Live	War 1362-65
		Make 3404	is if any. No. (18(2) etc. state sheet for each marr				
	1870 1380 y 1900 CENSUS	His Fatt	ner Stephen Tyler.	1754-1833	Mother's Maiden Name	ruch Alvordi	167-1817
	of Ovid MI		Wife's Full Ma		Mary E. Sco	<del>i</del> t	
	INT. ALL IIT. MI	Wites	Day Month Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc	State or Country	Add, Info, on Wife
	1880 census Bushnell Twp MI	Birth	C-1812	Avon?		NY	Gives berage
	The 1' 10 to 3 15-2	Chr'nd	C.131~	MVOI) .	Livingston	- 71	43 73 IN 13EC
	Clinton Co. Historical Sa.	Death	4 Nov 1872	Ovid	Clinton	MI	25 15 111 120
	" marriage records	Burial	4 1404 1017		Grove Cemeter		And the second s
	- Sign 20 77 1		of Residence	" Maple	Grove Concier	7	
	Compile Stuart B. Tyker		The second secon	Church Affiliatio		Military Rec.	
	Address 1206 Bennie Lane	Occupa	Dands, if any NO. (1) (2) etc. arate sheet for each marr	Charles Annualio		Miniary rica	
	Date February 2001	-		T 1770-1852	Mother's Maiden Name	ich Burne	1772-1858
Sex	Children's Names in Full	higren s	Day Month Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add, info, on Children
Sex	(Arrange in order of birth)	Birth	C: 1836		Livingston	NY	livingwith
F	Mary E.	Marr.			J-VJ	<b>1</b>	ogrents in 1860
Ŀ	Full Name of Spouse	Death					atage 24
	Pull Maine of Spouse	Burial					
$\vdash$	TT TT	Birth	C.1840	-	7	14	Gives age as
F	2 Augusta Ann	Marr.	C.1860				20 in 1860
ŀ-	Full Name of Spouse 1825-1892	Death	CHICA				
	Palmer C. Parsons	Burial					
-	Tamer C. Jar Seris	Birth	C,18+3		4	í a	in 1860 the
F	Sarah A.	Marr,					nameis Emma
1	Full Name of Spouse	Death					atage 17
	Full Name of Spoose	Burial					
-	44	Birth	20 March 1848		Á	H	Buried in same
F	Amanda Susan	Marr.	31 March 1868	Ovid	Clinton	MI	Notas parents
-	Full Name of Spouse	Death	8 Nov 1932	200 Hess 167 as 160			BUT WITHOUT
	Eldridge E. Levan	Burial		Ovis's Made	Grove Cemetery	к	Eldridge
-		Birth	C.1344		Livingston	144	
M	Franklin M.	Marr.		730 22002			Isugel in 1850
-	Full Name of Spouse	Death					age to in 1360
1	an indino the appropriate		Control of the second second second			A .	J

Notes: Anson enlisted as a private in the New York 15137 Volunteers at Lockport, NY Aug. 23, 1862 and was mustered out in Washington, D.C. June 26, 1865. He applied for an invalid pension due to having a hernia. This application was filed at Ovid July 25, 1868. This claim was later abandoned (probably due to his death just a few days after filing the claim) In 1850 Anson's nephew, Chester W. Tyler, at age is is living with him in Avon. Neither the National or New York Archives have a record of Chester's Civil War service. The Levans and the Parsons each had 7 children. Both families were in Ovidin 1870, but in 1880 the Parsons were in Bushnell Township (Montealin Co.) MI. Eldridge was born in Pannsyl vania about 1837 and entered the service from Philadelphia where he lived with his parents, William and Mary.

form Al. Family Group Sheet by The Everton Publishers, P. O. Box. 368. Logan, UE 84321. Publishers of The Germological Helper. Send for a fire catalogue with list and full descriptions of many operations of sixt.

Husband's Full Name Eldridge E. FAMILY GROUP NO. This information Obtained From: Add. Info. on Husband Descendants of Job Tyler C.1837 Philadelphia ? Philadelphia Birth Eldridge is age Clinton Ca Historical Sexiety 237n 1860 and Murriage records of Cliaton 31 March 1868 Clinton MI living withhis Death parents in LDS library IGI(PA Burial Philadelphia Places of Residence Ann Arbor Mi attime of his marriage E. Leven's military records Occupation Store clerk isio Philadelphia Census Church Affiliation Military Rec. Civil War 1841-65 1870 1880 1900 and 1910 cons of Ovid His Father William Levan b. PA 1792 Mothers Maiden Name Mary Ann Toinkins b. PA 1793 1900 1910 and 1920 census of Wife's Full Maiden Name ONESSE MI Susan Tyler 1350 census of Avon NY Day Month Year City, Town or Place County or Province, etc. State or Country Add. Info. on Wife Birth Amanda's 1932 obituary 20 March 13+8 Aven? Livingston Chr'nd Death NOV 1932 Maple Greve Cemeter, MI Compiler Stuart B. Tyler Places of Residence Living alone in Oxid in 1910 Address 1206 Bennie Lane Military Rec. City, State Cleveland, OH 44124 Her Father Anson Lyman Tyker 1803-1868 Mother's Maiden Name Miry Date February 2001 E. Scott c. 1812-1972 Day Month Year County or Province, etc. State or Country Oct 1368 Clinton MI in Morrill NE Madeline in Nov 1932 Death Johnson Burial Birth C 1871 in Seattle WA Ella Nellie" Marr. n Nov 1932 Death Straus Burial Birth April 1873 in Owassa Mi Gertrude c. 1897 1900 1910 1955 1920 and 1932 both buried Ovid's Maple Grove Cemetry Birth C. 1375 in Chicagoin Adelaide Marr. NOV 432 JamesTon C.1879 Marr. Oct 1885 trank Marr. Burial Birth Jan 1889 in May Jille Mi Marie Marr. 3 NOV 1932 Stewart

Notes: In 1870, the widow, Mary E. Tyler is living with the Levans in Ovid. Mary has real estate valued at 1000 and personal property with a value of 1300. In 1900 Amanda is the head of the family in Ovid with son Frank age 14 and daughter Marie 11. Although Eldridge is not listed with his family in the 1900 census, Amanda describes her marital status as married for 32 years. Eldridge enlisted in the PA 23rd Infantry at Philadelphia as a private in 1861 and was promoted to 2rd lieutenant in April 1864 while serving with the PA 88th Regiment.

#### **FAMILY HISTORIES**

Featured here are family histories which were submitted ca 1993 for a proposed supplement to the 1980 Clinton County History book. (See *Clinton Co. Trails*, Vol. 12, #1.)

# James Leonard Johnson Family

by James L. Johnson

I was born on August 12, 1947, in Detroit, MI, the oldest son of **Leonard William Johnson** and **Lettie Marion Giddings Johnson**.

I came to St. Johns in March 1952. At that time my father came to work with my grandfather, **William Johnson**, who had come to St. Johns in 1950. I am a graduate of Rodney B. Wilson High School, class of 1966. I served in the U.S. Navy from 1966 to 1970 during the Vietnam War.

On Nov. 21, 1970, in DeWitt, MI, I married **Dianna Rose Ellis** of DeWitt. Dianna was born on Sept. 14, 1951, in Lansing, MI, the daughter of **Richard Guy** and **Ethel Rose (Pennell) Ellis.** Dianna graduated with the first class of the new St. Johns High School in 1970. We now reside at 7256 Francis Road in Riley Township.

We have three children: **Cheryle Marie** b Sept. 29, 1972, **Michael James** b Apr. 19, 1975, and **Amy Lynn**, b Feb. 15, 1979. Cheryle graduated from the St. Johns High School in 1991 and Michael in 1993.

I am employed by General Motors Corporation in Lansing, MI, and am a member of the UAW Local 652. I am also a part-time farmer. Dianna is employed as a customer service manager at the Wal-Mart store in St. Johns. We are both 4-H leaders and are the 4-H Fair Poultry Project chairpersons. The children have also been active in 4-H.

## Frederic Gier/Guyer Family

by Betsy J. Randall

Frederic Gier/Guyer was born 26 July 1794 near Hagerstown, Maryland, the 7th child of Henry Gier (Revolutionary War, Lancaster Co., PA, Militia) and Catherine Stamm. After moving across Pennsylvania and Ohio, Frederic settled in Essex Twp., Clinton Co., MI, some time before 1860 with his family: wife, Mary Bacon (d 1887); son, Henry (1819-1891) who was "demented:" daughters, Katherine (1824-1892),Mariah (1828-1908),(1836-1917),Lucinda Emily/Emma (1839-1915), and Minervia (1840-1918).

Katherine married Isaac Reynolds. Their children were: Joseph, Jonathan, Wesley, Mary, William, Flora, and Cora.

Mariah married **Benjamin Baker** and they lived in Greenbush Twp. Their children were: **Francis, Charles Edward,** and **William.** 

Emily married 1)Abram Perry and their children were: Henry Franklin and 2)Barnhart Oberla and their children were Freddy, Alice, Caroline, and Jay.

Lucinda married John Ridenour and their children were: Margaret, Susan, George W., James H., John Benjamin, Jacob F., Lucinda M., William H., and Sarah.

Minervia married **Newell Bannister** and their children were: **Ransom, Francis B.,** and **Susan M.** 

Frederic died Apr. 9, 1861, and is buried in the Beach Cemetery, as is his wife, Mary, who died Sept. 30, 1887. There are many descendants of these families in the Maple Rapids area.

#### **Cemetery Reclamation Project**

Betty Driscoll, the inspiration behind the Clinton Co. Cemetery Reclamation Project, reports that they are planning to work in the following cemeteries this summer: Bray in Bengal Twp., Alward Lake in Olive Twp., South Riley in Riley Twp., and possibly Prairie in Essex Twp. This is the third year of the project which was organized in cooperation with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Clinton County, with the support of the respective township boards.

The cost of the project is projected at \$2,100. Funds will be used to purchase cement, construction adhesive, wood for foundations, herbicide, chain saw fuel, gravel, and other miscellaneous items. volunteers are welcomed. There is a special need for a nearby farmer with bucket on his tractor to lift heavy stones) and a neighbor who will allow use of outside water faucet . Contributions of cash or supplies are greatly appreciated. Checks should be made payable to BB/BS, PO Box 322, St. Johns, MI 48879. contacts are: Betty Driscoll 231-873-4159 bdriscoll@voyager.net; Corky Chamberlain 517-224-4284; or Karen Holiday 517-626-2050.



### It's Dues Time

Membership dues for 2001 are due. They are \$10.00 single & \$15.00 couple. See form on the back page of this newsletter for more info.

Your Membership to the Clinton Co.
Historical Society includes this
quarterly newsletter, membership to
the genealogy society, support of the
Paine-Gilliam-Scott Museum & The
Clinton County Archives

Thank you for your support!



Members may submit five surnames to be published in this newsletter, as space permits, when they pay their membership dues. See form on last page of this issue. Nonmembers may submit five names for a \$2.00 fee. Addresses below are in Michigan unless otherwise stated.

- Bruce Anderson 200 Dexter Road, Eaton
   Rapids. Heibeck, Dewstoe, Anderson,
   Havens & Boyd. Reyson@prodigy.com
- Eleanor Annis 5052 W. Highway 61, Box 88, Lutsen, MN 55612. Annis, Redfern, Kendrick, Gillet.
- Eugenia M. Arens 4344 S. Grange Road,
   Fowler. Nau, Pulte, Naumes, Huhn & Pfitzer.
- Peggy Lee Bailey 8742 Royce Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48313. Isreal Carpenter; Gilbert Garpenter; Esset Green; David & Catherine Miller; Charles Miller.
- Linda Barnes 1602 Cambria Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823. Grubaugh, Rhines, Jolly & Washington.
- Marion Bates 1403 Mould, Niles, 49120;
   marionbates@juno.com.
   Julia Elles(Ells), John & Polly (Clarke)
   Eeus
- Ron Bauerle 376 Joshua Drive, Apt. #2A,
   Erie, PA 16511. rdbauerle@juno.com.
   Bancroft, Ocobock, Beck, Cressman & Zischke.
- Gerald Benedict 2525 Aspen Way, Sandpoint, ID 83864. geraldb@mickon.net Timothy Pettit; Catherine Annis; Hiram Benedict; Mary Ely; Matthew Benedict & James Eli Jones.
- Charles Blakeslee 1635 Lincoln Heights, Pomeroy, OH 45769. Blakeslee, Risley, Wilkins, Travis & Lavender.
- Bonnie Burkhardt 1500 Bayberry Park Circle, Canton, MI 48188. <u>Burkhard@flash.net</u> Burdick, Pervorse & Rice.
- John Castle 761 E. Columbia St., Mason, MI 48854.
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   Treadwell, Dopp, Card & Howe.
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## VanDyke-Culp-Plowman School

from a history by **Agnes Pike Steinhardt**; read: 9 Aug. 1936 at the Plowman School reunion

The data for this history was obtained from three sources; namely, a record of early events written by William H.H. Knapp; a biography of Hiram & Lucy Tucker, written by their grand-daughter, Ella (Simmons) Pike; and a sketch of the William Van Dyke family written by his daugher, Charity (VanDyke) Pearce.

William Van Dyke came from New York state in 1844 accompanied by his wife and five children. He arrived at the home of Atwell and Lovinia Simmons, Riley's first pioneers, who gave Mr. VanDyke and family the use of a log building which had been their first home here and which was being used by Mr. Simmons as a cooper shop.

Mr. Van Dyke began immediately to make a clearing large enough for a log house on land in Sect. 24 which he had purchased from the government. This land was 2-1/2 miles north and west from the Simmons homestead and about 1/2 mile west of the present schoolhouse. It was winter and the snow was deep but the family moved in before the house was completed. Quilts were used for doors and windows. This land is now owned by **William Coffman**.

A school district, comprising nine square miles, was organized in 1848. The meetings called for this purpose were held at the home of Atwell Simmons. A schoolhouse was built in 1849 on Section 31 on land later known as the **Varney Pearce** farm. The VanDyke children were included in the census of school-age children.

In 1850 **Hiram** and **Lucy** Tucker came from New York state and located on Sect. 13 where **Clate Plowman** now lives. Before her marriage Mrs. Tucker had been a school teacher in her home state. Although there were now eight children in her family with ages ranging from sixteen years to one year and she was experiencing all the hardships of pioneer life, she found time to teach a select school in her home. Her own and the younger VanDyke children were her pupils. The VanDyke children walked through the woods following the path

by means of blazed trees,. This was the first school in this vicinity.

As new families came to locate in Dist. No. 1 of Riley and Olive, the schoolhouse soon became too small to accommodate the number of pupils and the question of building a new schoolhouse was agitated. It was finally decided to divide the district into three districts. In 1852 or 1853 Dist. #3 of the Twp. of Riley was organized and was called the VanDyke School District.

The VanDyke Schoolhouse was built of logs, 14 x 14 feet, with a shake roof and slabs Basswood logs about a foot in for floor. diameter were split in two. These were placed flat surface up, and with large wooden legs inserted on the underside, they formed seats which reached nearly across both sides of the building. Holes were made in the walls into which were driven large wooden pins. Then planks were laid across the pins for desks. The blackboards consisted of three boards about three feet long, each one foot wide. This building, completed in 1854, was located a few feet south and west of the house built many years afterward by Gust Yanz and now owned by Mrs. Robinson and son Elmer Braun.

The first term of school was taught in the winter of 1854-55 by Nancy Dalrymple. Lucy Tucker and her sister, Rhoda Wilber, also taught in this building. In the winter of 1855-56 William H.H. Knapp was the teacher. The district board at this time was: Hiram Tucker, director; Jonathan Henderson, moderator; William VanDyke, assessor. The names and ages of scholars at that time were as follows:

as ronovs.	
Charlotte Beedle	11
Francis Beedle	16
Mellissie Beedle	9
Miron Beedle	17
Richard Beedle	8
John Blizzard	8
Henry Henderson	9
Julia Henderson	14
J. Barney Knapp	15
John D. Knapp	17
Charlotte Tucker	6
Esther M. Tucker	13
Helen M. Tucker	10
Mary Priscilla Tucker	8
Charity Van Dyke	7

Herman VanDyke	13
James VanDyke	16
Lewis VanDyke	23
Martha VanDyke	14
Sarah VanDyke	5

During the winter of 1859-60, Wm.Knapp again taught this school. The scholars were: Martha, Herman, Charity, Sarah, and James VanDyke; John and Alice Culp; George and Elizabeth Blizzard; David Hildreth, Ira George, Sarah, Polly, and Mark Knapp; Esther, Helen, Priscilla, Charlotte, and Joseph Tucker; Lester, Lucy, Henry, Emily, and Joseph Bons.

**William Blizzard**, with his family, settled on Sect. 19 in Olive in 1855.

In 1860 a part of Olive Twp. was annexed and this then became Fractional Dist. #7, Riley and Olive. At this time an effort was made to change the schoolhouse site to a more convenient locality and to build a schoolhouse better fitted for the purpose, but on account of prejudice and ill feeling the necessary two-thirds majority could not be obtained. Consequently, after several meetings had been held, the effort was given up until 1862 when meetings were again held for the same purpose. The site was then changed to 80 rods south of the present school site. J.B. Bond, Samuel Knapp, and William Knapp were appointed as committee to draft a plan for the building which was to be of logs. A plan was adopted which would cost about twice the amount prescribed by law for a log building. The work was undertaken by William Knapp for \$75 and the residents of the district were to assist with the work. The building was finished in time for the summer school of 1863 and was called the Culp Schoolhouse.

The first teacher was Hortense Wilsey. William Knapp taught the winter term of 1863-64. Later teachers in this building were: Mary Partridge, Angeline Reynolds, Dell Wilsey, Jane Shaw, Frances Alleban (sister to Dr. Topping of DeWitt), Charity VanDyke, Estella Cook c1871, Ella Simmons c1872, and Viola Cook c1875.

Once more the school outgrew the capacity of the building and the site was again changed to its present location on the SE corner of Sect. 13. A frame building costing Clinton County Trails

\$500 was erected in the summer of 1877. William H.H. Knapp was the first teacher in the new building during the winter of 1877-78. The names of the pupils at this time were: Mortimer, Francis, Charles, Ida, Charlotte Beedle; Charles and Rolla Barton; Fred, Thomas, and Catherine Blizzard; Nathan and George Ash; Charles and Edward Cole; Louis Barnard; Mary Feazel; Almon, Leslie, Charles, George, and Emma Farrier; George, Percy, and Al Gillet; Ada and Aletha Smith; Martin, John, and Lydia Jane Knapp; Frank Ingram; Celia Miller; Clayton and Clifton Plowman; Charles and Arthut Chant: Nellie Merchant; and Rolla Taylor.

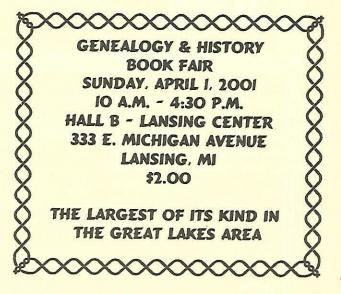
A few of the later teachers were:

Seymour Watson, J.B. Stone, Hiram
Simmon c1886-87; Jennie Gallagher, Bert
Burns, Darwin Utter, and Will Oding.

Agnes Pike taught the fall term in 1902; Eva
Simmons, later.

The schoolhouse faced the east until 1905 when it was turned to face the south. The school terms in the early days could not have been very definite and regular, as I notice in the records of the late William Knapp that many of the pupils of the VanDyke School one year attended the Simmons School the following year where Knapp was also employed as a teacher for several years.

[The VanDyke School later came to be known as the Plowman School. Thanks to Rowlan Smith for giving this material to the archives.]



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