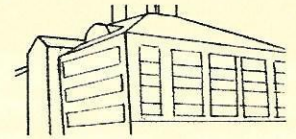




Clinton County Trails

ISSN 0894-8933



June 22, 2000

1871-1998

Published by: Genealogists of the
Clinton County Historical Society
P.O. Box 23, St. Johns, MI 48879

Published Quarterly

September 2006

Volume 21, Number 3

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Martha Strickland Clark

By Carolyn Jacobs

J.D. Candidate, Stanford Law School, Class of 2006

www.law.stanford.edu/library/wlhb/papers/strickland
(Essay used by the generous permission of the author.)

Martha Strickland Clark (25 Mar. 1853 – 17 June 1935), lecturer, educator, first woman lawyer to argue before the Michigan Supreme Court. Born in Clinton County, Michigan, Strickland began her public career at the podium, where, by her early twenties, she had become a "forceful and eloquent platform orator" on such topics as woman suffrage, temperance, and finance. Yet it was her more controversial advocacy of "free love" that initially brought her nationwide attention. Convinced that marriage was "founded on the principle of master and slave," Strickland entered into a contractual union with lawyer/lecturer Leo Miller in 1875. Extraordinary for its time, this "free marriage" subjected the couple to social condemnation and criminal prosecution (for "lewd and lascivious cohabitation") especially after Strickland bore their son, Elwin Miller-Strickland, in September 1876. The media was particularly unsympathetic when the couple mutually dissolved their union several years later.

To support herself and her young son, Strickland enrolled in the University of Michigan's law department in 1882. Upon graduating the next year, she immediately began practicing law, the one woman in particularly "male" realms. Though women's participation in criminal law was considered "indecent," Strickland served three years as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney for Clinton County, helping convict murderers, swindlers, and crooks. Strickland also entered the male political arena. As a Greenback delegate in 1886, she delivered an "electrifying" eleventh-hour speech that led the long-feuding Greenbackers and Democrats to "fuse" behind a common Congressional nominee.

Soon after opening her own office in Detroit in 1887, while yet the sole female attorney in town, Strickland brought two hotly contested cases before the state's highest tribunal. The first, in which she won a divorce for an abused wife, made Strickland famous as the first woman lawyer to argue before the Michigan Supreme Court (9 October 1888). Her second victory established a woman's right to hold the office of deputy county clerk. Strickland's winning

arguments, drawn from an 1883 article published in the prestigious *American Law Review*, ensured that Michigan women could take jobs in municipal government.

In the early 1890's Strickland found her calling as a teacher. Her popular ladies' classes in "Parliamentary Law" prepared women for public life, by imparting the rules for conducting orderly meetings, expediting business, and speaking extemporaneously. For two decades, Strickland traveled across the country to teach, visiting Memphis, Chicago, Washington, Denver, El Paso, and Los Angeles.

Around 1896, Strickland arrived in Colorado, where she formally married Sheldon Clark, a longtime friend on January 1, 1897. Though steadfastly endorsing women's independence, Strickland craved "freedom from public poking its brutal and impertinent nose in the most sacred...relationship." "Queer but true," she declared, "I marry for freedom."

Martha Strickland Clark devoted her remarkably diverse career to expanding women's political and professional opportunities. By securing such opportunities for others—and by seizing them herself—she helped cultivate her ideal society, where woman "take[s] her place by the side of her brother-man, endowed with full powers in the administration of justice." (A more detailed biography and other papers about Strickland-Clark by Carolyn (Jacobs) Chachkin, including detailed lists of her sources, can be found at the above website.)

Martha (Strickland) Clark to be inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame

Earlier this year the Clinton County Historical Society nominated Martha (Strickland) Clark to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in the Historical Honors Division.

Notification was received in July that she had been selected as one of the 2006 inductees. The formal induction is to take place at an awards dinner, "Celebration of Michigan Women," on Oct. 25, 2006.

Carolyn (Jacobs) Chachkin, who allowed the use of her essay in this issue, did extensive research on Martha Strickland as a student working on Stanford Law School's project of documenting female pioneers in the legal profession. Her research provided much of the data expressed in the Hall of Fame nomination.

Martha "Mattie" Helen Strickland was born in DeWitt, Mich., the daughter of **Randolph and Mary Ellen (Gooch) Strickland**. In 1852 Randolph was elected Clinton Co. Prosecutor and in 1862 he was elected to the Michigan senate. At that time he moved

his family to St. Johns, by now the county seat. The family resided in a large brick house that stood on the land presently occupied by St. Joseph Catholic Church. Martha and her sisters attended school in St. Johns.

In 1869 the family went to Washington D.C. because Randolph had been elected as the Republican Representative from Michigan 6th District to the 41st Congress of the U.S. There, at age sixteen, Martha acted as his private secretary.

Having received instruction in the law from both her father and her uncle, Judge **Obediah Frank Strickland**, she enrolled in the University of Michigan's law department around 1874, one of the first female students allowed. However, failing eyesight forced her to leave in 1875. It was then that she began to lecture on women's legal rights and expound her views on marriage.

By 1880, separated from **Leo Miller**, she and their son, **Elwin**, are shown on the census living in St. Johns with her parents. Randolph Strickland died on 5 May 1881, and soon after Martha re-entered the U of M Law School.

On the 1900 census Martha and Elwin are residing in El Paso with her husband, **Sheldon Clark**. The whereabouts and fates of both Leo Miller and Sheldon Clark in later years is unknown. Martha and her two sisters (**M. Alida Eastman and Hattie E. Allaben**), were with their mother when she died in Rockford, IL, on 10 Oct 1905. Martha died at the home of a niece near Grand Rapids on 17 June 1935. Elwin who was in Wayne Co., MI, on the 1930 census, apparently led a troubled life. He died in 1946. Randolph, Mary, Martha and Elwin are all buried in the DeWitt Cemetery.

Clinton Independent ~ 25 Nov 1875; p3

MISS MATTIE STRICKLAND'S LETTER & CONTRACT

Whitewater, Wis. Nov. 10, 1875

Ed(itor) Independent:: Judging by your kindness, you will allow me to use your column as a means of stating to my home friends the position I have taken upon the social question.

I enclose a copy of a contract which I have recently signed, and ask you to publish it together with my letter. I take this position after months of the most intense agony. For nearly two years I have realized that however devotedly I may love, I could not take upon myself the legal bonds of marriage for I believe them to be founded upon the principal of master and slave. It matters not that as we have progressed in intelligence the marriage institution has lost some of its

brutal features, it still stands the altar upon which constantly are being laid the highest, most beautiful hopes of man and woman.

Living only a few years and those in our quiet village, I have yet seen around me such ghastly specters of buried hopes and lost ambitions, as to make me shudder whenever the marriage bell pealed forth its hollow sounds. Bright girl friends, who a few years ago laughed and danced in joyousness, now drag their weary bodies just this side of the grave, praying daily to die. The excessive demands of husbands they are not adapted to, the constant blighting fear of maternity--when that should be the golden hope of womanhood--the soul destroying subjection of one individual to another, the indifference and disgust that spring from enforced familiarity, are sapping the strength of body, mind, and soul of the women in our little town, and what is true of St. Johns is true of the whole country.

Case after case has come to my knowledge until I have burned to rise before you and tell the truths I know.

The hopes of my dearest friends have held me back, and I confide to you that more than a year ago was over persuaded to drop from my Suffrage lecture the words I most longed to utter, that for money and popularity! Bah! I repent in severe suffering the weakness that caused me to yield; and now rising before you a free woman, I say that neither poverty or prison walls shall cause me to sell my soul again. Hereafter, to the extent of my whole strength, I shall speak the highest truths I feel.

Honestly, Mattie Strickland

CARD

We ask the sympathy of our friends in our sorrow, for the course pursued by our poor, deluded, misguided, and insane daughter. And we extend our thanks to the kind friends that have labored with us during the last year or so earnestly to save her. We bow our heads in grief.

Randolph Strickland

Mary E. Strickland

St. Johns ~ Nov. 20, 1876 (sic)

UNION-- CIVIL & CONJUGAL

The undersigned, this second day of November A. D. 1875, enter into a business partnership under the name of MILLER AND STRICKLAND, on the following conditions, to-wit: that all our earnings and profits arising from our individual and joint labor, whether to departments of literature, art, mechanics, agriculture, or trade, shall be shared and held equally.

Believing that the Divine Principle of Love, drawing together two kindred souls, is the only binding law in the conjugal union of the sexes, and the only law making right such intimate relationships, we are happy to confess to each other and to God and the Angels and all the world, the existence of a mutual affection known only by that name; and we deliberately join heart and hand in this most sacred of all unions, hoping and praying that the tie than binds may last through life and survive the grave.

Should this union be blessed with offspring, we jointly and severally pledge ourselves, and assigns and administrators, to foster and support them during the dependent years of infancy and youth, supporting their physical wants and rearing them in the principals of virtue and knowledge to the best of our ability and judgment.

This simple form of conjugal union we are constrained to adopt from the deepest conscientious convictions of right and duty, and we sincerely regret that conditions of our society, which if we would be true to ourselves, makes it necessary for us to oppose the opinions of our fellow creatures--disregarding the laws and customs which they assume to make for the control of an affection between the sexes, which we believe is, and of divine right ought to be, FREE.

Leo Miller ~ Mattie Strickland ~ Nov. 2, 1875

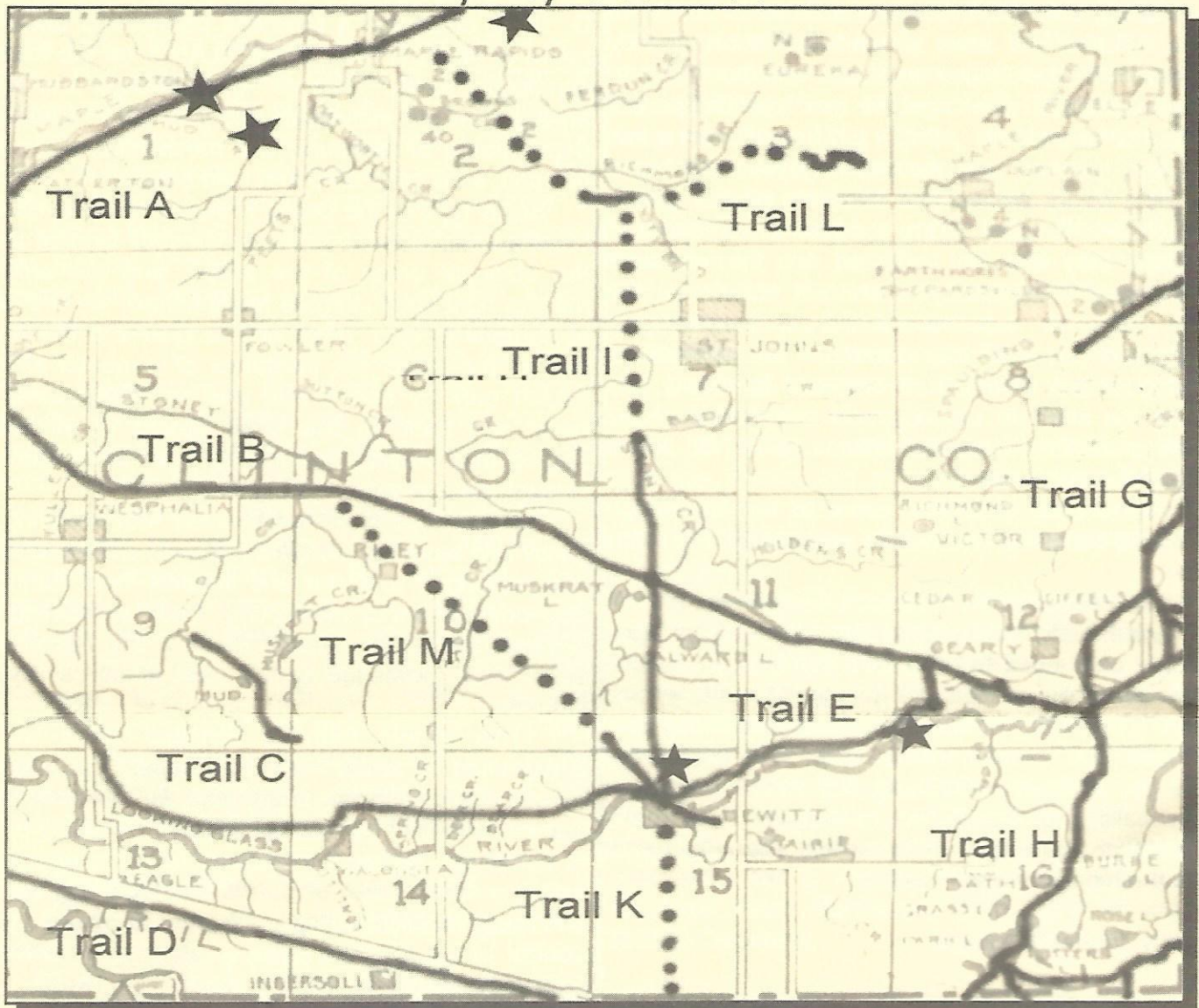
Michigan History magazine would like to inform the members of the Clinton County Genealogical and Historical society of the coverage that St. Johns' received in its July issue. Those wishing to view the article can purchase a copy by calling (800) 366-3707 or visit

www.michiganhistorymagazine.com.

The web site does have some pictures of the town of St. Johns. Any questions can be directed to Kristin Phillips, Marketing Manager, 702 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48909 or phone (517) 373-3703.

Indian and Pioneer Trails

By Wayne Summers



Prior to the settlement of Clinton County by Europeans, the county had been the home of Native Americans, mostly Chippewa, who lived in villages along the Maple and Looking Glass Rivers. (Stars on the map¹ show the location of known Indian villages.) Connecting the villages of Clinton County with other areas of Michigan was a system of narrow trails. Some were well traveled and easy to follow, while others needed a trained eye to stay on the course.

The first of these trails was a branch of the Saginaw Trail (see Trail A on map). This trail traveled up the south side of the Maple River from the mouth of the Maple at Lyons through Lebanon and Essex Townships. It crossed the river east of Maple Rapids and then headed on toward Saginaw.

Trails B, C, D, and E were all branches of the Grand River Trail. This trail was composed of several alternative routes connecting Pontiac and Grand Rapids. The main southern trail ran through portions of Watertown and Eagle Townships approximately following the route of the present Grand River Road. There were two northern routes through the county which branched off

¹ Solid lines on the map are known Indian trail routes. Dotted lines are speculated routes.

from the northern trail near Round Lake in Victor Township. One took a more direct route across the center of the county meeting up and following Stoney Creek. The second followed the north bank of the Looking Glass River. Present day Round Lake Road (see Trail E) follows a portion of this trail.

From just west of Laingsburg, there was a trail that headed south (see Trail H) passing between Perch and Park Lakes and ending at an Indian village located in the current city of Okemos. The trail heading north (Trail G) traveled east toward the current city of Owosso.

Coming up the middle of the county was a trail (see Trails K and I) that started near Maple Rapids and headed southeast following an uncertain route until it reached the current intersection of Parks and DeWitt Roads. It then followed the present route of DeWitt Road south to DeWitt. In DeWitt there may have been a trail that crossed the Looking Glass River near River Trail Park before heading south to meet up with the southern Grand River Trail (Trail K). This trail is speculative and was probably not well traveled, but would have provided a more direct land route from the Indian village in DeWitt to the Grand River and the main Grand River Trail.

Another speculative trail (see Trail L) is based on a small section of a trail found by early archeologists in Greenbush Township. This may have been a route that connected Maple Rapids with the Duplain and Ovid areas. A final Indian trail was just north of Trail C. It's unknown where it started or ended. Pioneer Road follows this trail today.

As pioneers entered the county they used and widened many of these trails. The first to be widened was what would become the Round Lake Road which connected DeWitt with southeast Michigan.

The second road in the county was cut by the Rochester Colony. It traveled from east of Laingsburg to the Colony in Duplain Township and didn't follow any known Indian trail.

In 1833 a party from New York State under the leadership of Samuel Dexter arrived in DeWitt from Ypsilanti. The route they took is uncertain. Ken Coin, DeWitt historian, believes they came along the northern Grand River Trail from the east following the same route as the Scott party. Since there are remnants of the Dexter Trail in Ingham County, it seems also possible they followed Indian trails passing through present day Mason and Okemos until reaching the northern branch of the Grand River Trail near Round Lake.

In DeWitt they hired a local Indian to scout out the route across Riley Township. It's uncertain if this was a new route, or if it followed an infrequently used Indian trail (see Trail M). Regardless, it met the northern Grand River Trail near where Muskrat Creek joins Stoney Creek. From there it followed the main Indian trail to Lyons. The original portion of the Dexter Trail in Riley Township was abandoned and rerouted, however, the sections in Bengal and Dallas townships follow the old route.

Also in 1833, the section of the Grand River Trail that followed the north side of the Looking Glass River was widened from DeWitt to Portland. This was known as the Englishman's Trail.

With the establishment of the Rochester Colony, David Scott cut a trail connecting the Colony with DeWitt. The DeWitt-Colony Road followed the old Indian trail north of DeWitt (now DeWitt Road) until reaching the area of Parks Road. From there it zigzagged in a north-easterly direction through what later would become St. Johns until finally reaching the Colony.

With the arrival of more settlers, many of these early roads were abandoned or rerouted to follow section lines. Within a few decades the county's transportation system had evolved from a system of Indian trails to one of evenly spaced north-south and east-west roads. The remnants of these early roads can still be found on DeWitt Road, Round Lake Road, Dexter Trail and Pioneer Road. The next time you travel on one of these meandering roads, you'll be following the same path the Indians and pioneers used for hundreds of years.

NEW CD'S

Pioneer Society - The records and papers of the Clinton County Pioneer Society (1873-1935) have just been put on a CD by Wayne Summers. This culminates a project, long in the works, conceived by Kenneth Coin.. Ken used the original membership book of the society and then found supplemental names, dates, and places to enhance the data. He compiled and edited the pioneer papers which were read at their annual picnics and meetings plus much other material about and by the county's pioneers. The society's annual reports (deaths and obituaries), which were sent to the Michigan State Pioneer Society were collected too. All of these papers, amounting to almost 500 pages, are included on the CD.

School Census Records CD

The Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society have begun the publication of Clinton County school census records from 1902-1925. Information which you can gather from a school census includes:

- ★ Listing of all children between the ages of 5 and 19 living in the district with ages.
- ★ Number of children in the district & the number who attended school during the last year.
- ★ Number of days school was in session, subjects taught & books used.
- ★ Teacher(s) name(s) and salary paid.
- ★ Basic information on the school house and furnishings.
- ★ Number of 8th grade graduates and number attending high school.
- ★ Financial statement with income and expenditures.
- ★ Listing and signature of school board members
- ★ Beginning in 1905 parent/guardian's names and address are given.
- ★ Beginning in 1907 the birth date of those 5 and 19 is given. Some districts misunderstood the directions and listed the birthdates of all children in the district.
- ★ Beginning in 1920 additional information was gathered about the building (size of rooms and number of windows) and school year.

The first two volumes of are now available on CD for \$15 each. Volume 1 covers Bath, Bengal and Bingham townships (excluding the City of St. Johns which is missing). Volume 2 covers Dallas and DeWitt townships. Each CD contains some surprise extras gathered by Wayne Summers while researching his One Room Schools book. Volume 2 also includes a number of photographs from the DeWitt Public Library photograph collection of the DeWitt village school.

Wayne Summer's Our Hero!

The Genealogists of the CCHS are extremely grateful to Wayne Summers for preserving these records and making them more accessible. He has designated the proceeds for the benefit of the Genealogists' organization. Please see the list of publications on the back page of this issue or on our web page for more details.

Pike Family Research: Stu Pike, a descendant of **Mark Woodbury Pike**, b. 1799, would like assistance in locating living family member of the PIKE clan, preferably a male, who would be willing to have DNA testing done. If this is your family and you are willing to contribute, you can contact **Stu Pike** at 925-325-7127 or e-mail him at:
http://www.math.mun.ca/~dapike/family_history/pike/DNA/index.php?content=results.html

THE OLD MACHINE SHOP – Part I

405 N. Lansing Street, St. Johns, Michigan

By Ron Matson

How many of us remember the old machine shop that stood just north of the railroad tracks on the west side of Lansing Street (parcel of land now occupied by Barber's Carpet Warehouse)? Did you ever wonder what secrets that old building held? Was there anything there before the machine shop? Well folks, 405 N. Lansing St. has a very interesting and diverse history.

Richard Moore, an English immigrant arrived in St. Johns in 1855 and settled on a farm in the northeast quarter of section 8 (North Lansing St. and Walker Rd.). St. Johns was little more than a clearing in the wilderness. The village had not yet been platted and the railroad had not yet arrived. There was a sawmill, a hotel, and a handful of merchants in wooden buildings, but a village was being planned and trees were being cut down to make way for streets. Richard Moore saw opportunity and purchased from **Francis Lynd** the parcel of land that is the subject of this article and built an "ashery" there.

"What is an ashery," you say. An ashery was a early industry that has faded into history. They were common in early settlements where forests had to be cleared for homes and farmland. There were so many trees that many of them were cut down and burned just to get them out of the way. The ashes were sold to the ashery where they were leached to produce lye. The lye could be boiled down to produce potash or black salts, as they were called. The potash could be further processed into pearlsh. These raw materials were sold to manufacturers and used in the production of soap, glass, gunpowder, and other products. Many acres of Clinton Co. farmland were probably paid for by selling the ashes from the trees that were cut down by our first settlers as they cleared the land.

In 1860 **Jacob Brown** purchased the ashery. He also had the contract for outfitting the soldiers who were recruited in this county for the

Civil War. The old Barker Carriage Shop across the street from the ashery was used as a barracks for this process.

In 1862 **Amassa Carrier** purchased the ashery and in the 1867 Michigan Gazetteer we find it listed as the Carrier and Fairchild Ashery. Amassa Carrier was also a newspaper man, being part owner of the *Clinton Republican* and later, after moving to Ovid, was part owner of the *Ovid Register*.

In 1867 **Henry Perrin** bought the ashery, and we find this ad in the *Clinton Republican* of 23 August 1867:

SAVE YOUR ASHES

The undersigned, having purchased and thoroughly refitted the ashery at the railroad crossing in St. Johns, is prepared to pay cash for all the ashes he can buy at the ashery or elsewhere within any feasible distance from St. Johns.

Henry M. Perrin.

Henry Perrin was a lawyer, had been elected proba judge, and in 1864 was elected to the state senate. He was one of the most respected and well-liked citizen of St. Johns.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- Bannister & Ashley United Methodist Church Directories; 1989 & 1995.
- Maple Rapids & Middleton United Method Church Directory; 1983.
- Shiawassee Co. Marriages; 1862-1867.
- Shiawassee Co. Cemetery Locations.
- Fairfield Cemetery; 2002.
- *Tracing Your Roots*; Consumers Guide; 1997.
- *Tracing Your Roots*; Wheeler; 1966.
- Descendants of Henry & Mary E. (Sinclair) Montague; compiled by Jerry Bohnett ca 2006.
- Laingsburg Cemetery Burials & History, Jerry Bohnett; 2002.
- Photos: Cora Randall; Grant Randall.
- Photo, Wm. & Anne (Green) Huggett & their home.
- Compaq computer & components used.
- Scanjet scanner; used.
- *Downtown, The History of St. Johns, Michigan*; Collins; 2005.
- DeWitt Weekly Advertiser 1950-1969, microfilm.

PRESIDENTS, SOLDIERS, STATESMEN

(continued) ~ See Vol. 19, No. 1

BENJAMIN F. SCHOFIELD was born in Ypsilanti, Mich., Nov. 26, 1849, and was a son of **B. D. and Sarah (Thayer) Schofield**. The former is living at the age of 68; the latter is deceased. He was happily married in the spring of 1866 in Marshall, Mich., to **Hannah Gile** who was born in New York state in 1852. She was a daughter of **Jacob and Mary Gile**, parents both deceased. To this marriage was given these children: **Mildred; George R.; Hattie (dec.); Hattie; Fred; and Winnie (dec.)**. Comrade Schofield was employed as a clerk when the war broke out. He enlisted June 1863 at Ann Arbor to defend the flag of his country. He was enrolled as a private in 5th Mich. Cav., 1st Brig., 1st Div., 1st C.C. May 1864 he was internally injured by horse falling on him at Wilderness. He was taken to hospital at Alexander two weeks and Auger Gen. Hospital for four weeks. Besides the Wilderness Campaign, he fought in several skirmishes. He was honorably discharged from Auger General Hospital July 1864, being unfit for further field service. His father served in Berdan's S.S. Comrade Schofield is a liveryman and his address is St. Johns, Mich.

ALFRED R. SMITH was born in Wheatland, N.Y., March 28, 1842, a son of **Rawson and Abigail (Perry) Smith**, long ago numbered with the dead. His wife, whom he married June 30, 1869, in Bath, Mich., was before marriage **Julia McGougal**. She was a daughter of **Dennis and Mary McDougal**, deceased, and was born in Shiawassee Co., Mich., in 1850. The issue of this marriage is five children: **Alfred E., Frank G., Ella M., Nettie and Glenn O.** Comrade Smith was a farmer of 19 years when he was enrolled in Co. G, 78 N.Y.V.I., 3 Brig., 2 Div., 12 A.C., Dec. 17, 1861. During all the trials of army life, he was true to his duty. In 1862 he was furloughed for thirty days and returned to Acqua Creek at end of time. In 1863, he was transferred at Chattanooga, Tenn., to 20 A.C. In 1864-5 he was detailed on garrison duty in charge of squad of men to guard telegraph wires for four months. July 4, 1864, he was wounded at Kenesaw Mt., Ga., in left breast and was treated for same in hospital at Nashville, Tenn., for three months. He participated in the battles of Cedar Mt., Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Chattanooga, Lookout Mt., Kenesaw Mt., and others equally important. He was honorable discharged June 1865 at Bladensburg, Md. His grandfather served in the War of 1812 and his great-grandfather served in the British army first, then the American army during the Rev. War. His wife had three brothers in the late war, **James** being killed in action. Comrade Smith is a farmer by occupation and his address is Bath, Mich.

AUSTIN T. SMITH was born in Oswego Co., New York, May 20, 1840. His father, **R. Smith**, is deceased, but his mother, **Sarah A. (Terry)** is still living at the age of 80 years. Comrade Smith was engaged in farming when he decided to take up arms in defense of the flag so near and dear to every soldier's heart. He was enrolled May 20, 1861, as a private in Co. K, 4 Mich. V.I., and in due time was made Corp. He was ill with chronic diarrhea and received hospital treatment at Falmouth, Va., for six weeks. Although his Regt. was not actively engaged in the Battle of 2nd Bull Run, it took part in the movements connected therewith. In the construction of the defense of Washington, his Regt. also took a prominent part. Our subject was called from the shores of time March 9, 1863, in Falmouth, Va., from consumption and chronic diarrhea. His brother, William, in N.Y. Regt., was killed at the Battle of Wilderness. His mother resides in Bath, Mich.

HORACE A. SOWLE. **James and Lucy (Nestell) Sowle**, deceased, are the parents of our subject who was born in Washtenaw Co., Mich., March 23, 1834. The lady who became his wife, March 2, 1856, in Essex Twp., Clinton Co., Mich., was previous to that event **Marie Hawkins**. She was born in Orange Co., N.Y., Oct 9, 1831, and was a daughter of **Benjamin and Elizabeth (Ellis) Hawkins**, deceased. Two daughters constitute this family, **Lucy A. and Mary E.** Comrade Sowle enlisted August 1862 and served in the ranks of Uncle Sam. He was enrolled from Maple Rapids, Mich., when 28 years of age as a private in Co. G, 5th Mich. Cav. Sept. 20, 1862, he was stricken with typhoid fever. He was taken to Detroit, Mich., where he was treated four weeks. The disease settled in his foot and gangrene set it, necessitating amputation of that member above the knee. Owing to his disability he did not take part in any battles and was honorably discharged Oct. 8, 1862, at Detroit, Mich., being unfit for further field service. He had three brothers in service: **James D.**, in 13th Mich. V.I.; **George** in 5th Mich. Cav. was confined in Belle Isle prison for 28 weeks; and **David** in 3rd Mich. Cav. His wife also had three brothers in service: **John** in 1st Mich. Cav., **James and George** in 26th Mich. S.S. Comrade Sowle is at present

successfully engaged in farming and his address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

JOSEPH STEAD, a native of Macomb Co., Mich., was born Nov. 18, 1844, and was a son of **Thomas Stead**, deceased, and **Amanda (Allen)** deceased. April 28, 1869, he was married in St. Johns, Mich., to **Sarah A. Davison**, and their hearthstone has been graced with three children: **Hattie M., Rosa M., and Eva J.** His wife was born in Sterling, Mich., March 1851, and was a daughter of **Andrew and Sally (King) Davison**, dec. His wife died Nov. 11, 1880, in Essex Twp., Clinton Co., Mich. When the war broke out he was engaged in farming. He responded to the president's call for brave boys to don the blue in defense of the Stars and Stripes Aug. 11, 1862, at Detroit, Mich., as a private in Co. A, 4th Mich. Cav., 17 C.C. Nov. 1862 he was confined in hospital at Lebanon, Ky., two months, suffering with typhoid fever, and was transferred to Louisville three days at Convalescent Camp, Gallipolis, O., from the effects of same five weeks, and returned to Regt. Jan. 1863. He was confined in hospital at Mud Creek 10 days and was later transferred to Convalescent Camp on Stone River two weeks with typhoid pneumonia. Oct. 1, 1862, he was detailed at Jeffersonville, Ind., to arrest some men who were damaging property, and spent eight days in this way. In Nov. 1862 he was also on special duty three days while Morgan was making his raid. March 1, 1863, he was detailed to guard wagon train for two days at Murfreesboro. Among the battles in which he took a prominent part may be mentioned: Stanford, Thompson Station, Ruthford Creek, Duck River, Prosperity Church. He was honorably discharged May 1863 at Murfreesboro, Tenn. His wife had two brothers in service: **George and James**. Comrade Stead is a member of B. Begole Post 127. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

EDWIN C. STEVENS was born in Genesee Co., N.Y., Dec. 5, 1830, and was a son of **Robert and Mary (Stevens) Stevens**. The former is dec.; the later is still living at the age of 85 years. He was married Dec. 30, 1854, in Buffalo, N.Y., to **Abigail Warner**, who was born in 1851 in Leroy, N.Y. One child was born to them--**William**. He was again married to **Harriet C. Perry**, July 1858, in Fentonville, Genesee Co., Mich., by whom he had these children: **Abigail, Charles, George F., Ernest, Edith, Mary, Loren, and Charles E.** Comrade Stevens served a short time in the Union Army during the late unpleasantness. He had been engaged in farming when he was enrolled March 1, 1865, at Detroit, Mich., in Co. H., 24 Mich. V.I. Owing to the lateness of his enlistment and the close of the war so soon after, he did not take part in any battles. He was honorably discharged July 1, 1865, at Detroit, Mich. His wife had two brothers in service: **George and Sherman**, both of whom were wounded in action. Comrade Stevens is a farmer by occupation and his address is St. Johns, Mich.

JOSEPH R. STICKLES was born in Newton, N.J., March 6, 1846, and came to Clinton Co., Mich., in 1854. His parents, **Jesse and Eliza (Gunderman) Stickles** are dead. He was united in the bonds of matrimony April 4, 1869, in DeWitt, Mich., to **Martha Morgan**. His wife was born in Orange Co., N.Y., in 1853, a daughter of **James and Hannah Morgan**, also deceased. The children of this union are two: **Maud** (married **Harry Nyman** and they have three children) and **Nyman**. Comrade Stickles is an old soldier who served his country faithfully and well during the late war. He had been engaged in farming and was but 17 years old when he was enrolled as a private in Co. M, 7th Mich. Cav. June 11, 1864, he was wounded at Travillian Station in knee which necessitated the amputation of that member. The next day he was taken prisoner and laid on the field and citizens took care of him for six weeks; was then transferred to Gordon ville for eight weeks where the second amputation took place. He was taken prisoner by the rebels at Travillian Station, being held at Gordonville and Libby for 113 days. In the fall of 1864, after being paroled, he was furloughed for sixty days and end of time returned to Harpers Hospital at Detroit till discharged March 10, 1865. His Regt. bore conspicuous part in the fierce engagements of Broad Run, Mortons Ford, Wilderness, Jacks Shop, Yellow Tavern, Whitehouse Landing, Spottsylvania C.H, and Travillian Station. His brother, **Charles**, was a member of Co. H, 24th Mich. V.I. His grandfathers both fought in the War of 1812. His grandmother **Gunderman** was a nurse in the War of 1812. His wife's father served in the late war in the 14th Mich. V.I., and died in service from measles. An uncle and two cousins surnamed **Morgan** also served. Comrade Stickles is a member of G. Anderson Post. He has been constable one year since the close of the war. He is living a retired life and his address is DeWitt, Mich.

THEODORE STINEHART, a native of Germany, was born Dec. 12, 1837, of parents, **M. & Mary Stinehart**, deceased. His helpmate in life's journey was **Elizabeth Saur**, the nuptial knot being tied in 1865 at Lansing, Mich. She was born Aug. 5, 1840, and was a daughter of **Louis and Mary (Kiff) Saur**, deceased. To this marriage were given these children: **Minnie, Louie, and Frank**. Comrade Stinehart was engaged as a carpenter when he decided to fight for his country. He was enrolled Aug. 1861, at Detroit, Mich., as a private in

Co. G, 16th Mich. V.I. June 27, 1862, he was wounded and was confined in hospital for some eight months. He took active part in the battles of Gaines Mills and St. Stevens, and was granted his honorable discharge Sept. 7, 1864, at Washington D.C., his term of enlistment having expired. Comrade Stinehart has a pension. He is a farmer and his address is DeWitt, Mich.

G. W. STIMSON. **John and Isabell (Biggs) Stimson**, deceased, are the parents of our subject who was born in Lenawee Co., Mich., July 14, 1845. **Lucy Rockwell** became his companion on life's journey Dec. 31, 1879, in Olive, Mich. She was born in Ohio March 5, 1855, a daughter of **Charles and Hannah (Belfield) Rockwell**, deceased. Comrade Stimson served in the Union Army during the late unpleasantness, being enrolled June 14, 1863, at St. Louis, Mo., as a private in Co. H, 11th Mo. Cav. He was detailed as Ord. at Hd. Qtrs., and spent about four months in this way. He was promoted to Q.M. Sergt., and so served in some of the hotly contested battles of the war: Pittsburg Landing, Tuscumbia, Big Blue, Holley Springs, Little Rock, and Ten Mile Prairie. He was granted his honorable discharge July 27, 1865, at New Orleans, La. He had two brothers in service: **John** (who died in service) and Francis (who was wounded by fragment of shell). Comrade Stimson is a member of G.W. Anderson Post. He is by trade a carpenter and his address is St. Johns, Mich.

ALFRED W. STOUGHTON, son of **Delsena and Sophia (Coffin) Stoughton**, deceased, was born in Oakland Co., Mich., Feb. 3, 1832. Oct. 28, 1856, he was married in Oakland Co., to **Lucy A. Hoskins**, who was born in West Bloomfield, Mich., Feb. 1837. She was a daughter of **Heron and Susan Hoskins**, deceased. Their domestic ties have been graced with four children: **Ida M.** (married **Horace Stewart**); **Susan** (married **Charles H. Clark**); **E. H.** (married **May Stewart**); and **Burdette**. Comrade Stoughton was engaged in farming. Meanwhile the War of the Rebellion was inaugurated and he became impressed with a desire to take an active part in defense of the Union. He was enrolled Sept. 1864 as a private in Co. K, 14th Mich. V.I., 2nd Div., 4th A.C., then being 32 years old. Oct 1864 he was hurt in a collision between Indianapolis and Lafayette, Ind., but he was not in the hospital. He was detailed on secret service in March 1864 and served in that capacity until granted an honorable discharge May 15, 1865, at New York Harbor. His grandfather served in the Revolutionary War and his father in the War of 1812. His brothers, **Delsena** and **A. J.** also served. The former was a member of Co. H, 22nd Mich. V.I.; the latter served in 14th Mich. V.I. His wife's cousin, **Henry Hessey**, was killed at the battle of the Wilderness. Comrade Stoughton has formerly been a member of G.A.R. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Bath, Mich.

JAMES STURDEVANT was born in Morrow Co., Ohio, July 3, 1844, and was a son of **Richard and Mary A. (Cross) Sturdevant**, deceased. The maiden name of his first wife was **Sarah Rose**, and they were married May 1866. Two children were the issue of this marriage: **Minnie and Lucy**. He was married secondly, March 8, 1878, in Eagle, Mich., to **Lizzie Wilson**. She was born in Riley Twp., this county, in 1854, a daughter of **John and Emily (Matthews) Wilson**; the latter only is living. Three children were born to this union: **William, Bertha, and Myrtle**. Comrade Sturdevant was among the veterans of the late war, having enlisted Oct. 1, 1862, at Cleveland, O., in Co. D, 124th O.V.I., and was not mustered out till its close. His record for distinguished bravery and good service on the field was one of which to be proud. May 1863 he was confined in Brig. Hospital at Franklin, Tenn., with measles. He was again confined in hospital at Franklin for typhoid fever four weeks in June 1863. Oct 1862 he was granted a leave of absence of two days and reported for duty at end of time. His battle record is as follows: Spring Hill, Atlanta, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Nashville, Manchester, Tryunne, Dallas, Bridgeport, and several others, receiving an honorable discharge July 9, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. His brother, **Abel** served in an Ohio Regt. His first wife's father was in the late war and died in service. Comrade Sturdevant has a pension. He is a farmer and his P.O. address is South Riley, Mich.

Thanks are due to the volunteers who keep the archives open and functioning. One of their main reason for being there is to assist researchers. However, they all work in many other capacities as only partially detailed here:

Mary Lou Courtland - Monday and Tuesday staff, in charge of abstracting vital records from the newspapers and entering current records in a data base.

Jan Dunn - Tuesday staff; clips newspapers; maintains vertical file & newspaper storage, among many other jobs.

Carole Henry - Tuesday staff; picks up mail; saves area newspapers; processes photographs; keeps sales records.

Julie Peters - Volunteer; revamped our web page; took over the death records typing job; indexed *Clinton Co. Trails* 2000-2005; creating a photo gallery for our web page.

Bill Serviss - saves DeWitt-Bath Review; technical consultant.

Rowlan Smith - Monday staff; saves St. Johns newspapers; enters current marriages in a data base.

Wayne Summers - typed approximately 45,000 death records to our web page; maintains our web page.

Ralph Temple - Monday & Tuesday staff; painted archives room; answers the email; reviews applications for Early Settler certificates.

Tom Thiell - Thursday & Friday staff; repairs and maintains the microfilm readers; management advisor.

Myrna Van Epps - Tuesday staff; keeps acquisition records; maintains shelf list.

⇒ **The Archives of the Clinton County Historical Society** are located at 16101 Brook Road in the DeWitt Twp. Community Center. Volunteers are there to give research assistance from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays & Fridays. Phone: (517) 482-5117. Web Page: www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS

⇒ **The Genealogists of the CCHS** meet the first Monday of each month at 1:00 pm November through March or 7:30 pm April through October in the Firstbank community room, located downtown St. Johns. E-mail address: ccgensoc@yahoo.com. The **Historical Society meetings** are held 30 minutes prior to the Genealogist's meetings at Firstbank, the first Monday of January, April, July & October.

⇒ **The Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum** is located on the west side of the Courthouse Square in St. Johns. Open April 1 - Dec 31. Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m. & Wednesday 2:00-7:00 p.m.





















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