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Contents.....Page

St. Johns Celebrates...	37
Memory Day.....	38
The Old Macine Shop:	
Part I	39
Lafayette & Ellen Marie	
[Halbert] Jones.....	40
W.R. Roach Co.....	41
Pres., Soldiers &	
Statesmen [cont].....	41

ST. JOHNS CELEBRATES SESQUECENTENNIAL NOT ONLY REASON

COLUMBUS DAY

(Clinton Republican; 20 Oct 1892)

The school will assemble at 9:00 A.M. in their various rooms. At 9:30 the detail of veterans will arrive. The following exercises will take place at the three schools:

- Reading of the President's Proclamation.
- Raising of the Flag by the Veterans.
- Salute to the Flag by the Pupils.

After this the pupils of the Union School will adjourn to the court house and the pupils of the north and east wards to Newton Hall. **Judge Daboll** and **E. H. Lyon** have been appointed speakers for the union school; **John Dooling** for the east ward; and **Ezra Smith** for the north school. The following program will be carried out after the schools have gathered at the court room and at Newton Hall:

- Acknowledgement of God, prayer.
- Song of Columbus Day by pupils and audience.
- Address, *The Meaning of the Four Centuries.*
- The Ode, *Columbia's Banner.*
- Address by citizens and national songs.
- Doxology.

Caption for program cover: Found by Lynne Gregory.

OLD HOME WEEK - 1926

According to an extensive article in the *Clinton Co. Republican-News* of 5 Aug 1926, the city of St. Johns held a week-long party at that time to celebrate Old Home Week. It featured an elaborate pageant reported to be "one of the finest and most enjoyable occasions ever held in this city." The pageant was produced by a professional company, involved over 400 local people, and was performed multiple times. The locals trained for two weeks and portrayed Indians, pioneers, forests, mists, Irish girls, wedding guests, and many other characters. Some performed in "The Ballet of Creation."

"The opening of the pageant was marked by the entrance of Miss St. Johns and her eight young lady attendants representing Beauty, Strength, Health, Faith, Hope, Patriotism, National Pride, and Liberty. Miss St. Johns gave a very gracious address of welcome to the visitors, which was followed by the entrance of Miss Columbia and the 48 states." This was Episode I.

Nine more "episodes" followed: The Dawning of Creation, The Dance of the Wilderness, Arrival of the First Settlers, etc. And that was only Part One! Part Two (titled, "The Melting Pot of the Nations"), is described in the program as "A mammoth spectacle symbolizing the spirit and growth of America, the melting pot of nations...Character dances of many nations will be given...Groups taking part in the masque in order of appearance: English, French, Jackies, Irish, Belgian, Dutch, Chinese, Japanese, Italians, U.S.A., Girls, Boy Scouts, American Legion." The cast of main characters lists:

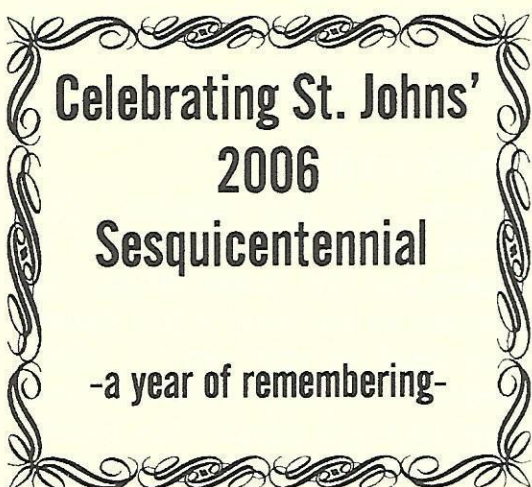
Miss St. Johns	Miss Margaret Andrews
Miss Columbia	Mrs. E. E. Bishop
Father Time	Mr. S. L. Marshall
The Pioneer Man	Mr. Dee Waters
The Pioneer Woman	Mrs. J.C. Flynn
Fever	Miss Dorothy Luton
Famine	Miss Jane Huey
Death	Mr. Jesse Bancroft
Indian Chief	Mr. William Smith
Spirit of the Wildernes	Miss Mary Hillyer
School Teacher	Mrs. Theodore Townsend
Minister	Mr. Glenn Tupper
The Bride	Miss Marie Somerville
The Groom	Mr. John Radmacher

Hundreds paid 50¢ to witness this extravaganza, many more than once. In other reported events during Old Home Week, four hundred people were expected for the St. Johns High School Alumni Banquet and a chorus of 1,000 school children was scheduled to perform.

Here is the way the newspaper described one group's experience as part of the excitement:

"This week was a great get-together for the teacher and pupils of the Cramer School of 50 years ago. These people occupied one of the floats in the *Pageant of Progress* parade on Tuesday afternoon. **Mrs. Henry Farragher**, who was **Liva Dane** when she taught the school half a century ago, was present with 18 of her scholars. These "old boys and girls": were **Mike and Andrew Henning; Mrs. Celia (Henning) Baumgartner; Philip Barnhart; Eugene Barnes and his sister, Mrs. Richard Gay or May Barnes; Mrs. Allie (Atkinson) Durkee; Charlie Atkinson; Mrs. May (Hettler) Karber; Valentine Karber; Ross Brooks; Mary, Louise, and George Kelly; Mrs. R. Willhousen Luther; and George Wilkins.**"

On Wednesday of Old Home Week, the pioneers convened at the high school where they were addressed by chairman, **J. W. Fitzgerald**. A program of music, speeches, and remembrances filled their afternoon. During the proceedings, a chair was given to the oldest settler of Clinton Co. who was present, **Caroline Cornell**, and another to the settler who came the farthest distance, **Henry Smith** of Glendale, CA.



MEMORY DAY

In 1905 **John Tyler "J. T." Daniells** of Essex Twp. successfully promoted his idea of establishing a special day in Michigan for the purpose of maintaining cemeteries. He felt the cemeteries were sadly neglected, especially those in rural areas. During its last session that year, the state legislature set apart the 25th of May and the 30th of September each year as "Memory Day" to be observed by improving and beautifying the cemeteries.

Daniells also wrote a poem, *Memory Day*, which he copyrighted in 1910-- "...Never, never, once forget, as the seasons pass away; that a duty binds us yet, to the deeds of Mem'ry Day..."

In his farm journal which the archives holds, Daniells made the following entries:

Sept. 30, 1905 ~ Observed 1st Memory Day for the better care of cemeteries.

Sept. 30, 1906 ~ Sunday, "Memory Day" - went to Mattie's grave.

J. T. Daniells was born on 25 December 1840, in Troy, Oakland Co., Michigan. In 1868 he and his wife, **Mattie (Barnes)** settled on the land in section one of Essex which he named Maple Row Farm. He died there on 21 Feb. 1934. Mattie Daniells died 6 Dec. 1903. J. T. served for many years as president of the Clinton Co. Pioneer Society and as the Essex Twp. supervisor; helped organize the State Assoc. of Farmers Clubs; was an early advocate of rural free delivery; and throughout his life took an active part in his church.

THE OLD MACHINE SHOP

405 N. Lansing Street, St. Johns, Michigan

By Ron Matson

(Continued from previous issue)

Part I: The Ashery Era & the St. Johns Co-Operative Company

In 1871 **Levi Bare** bought the property with the idea of building a grist mill there. The old ashery, apparently closed now, was moved back to make room for the mill, but no evidence was found that the grist mill was ever built.

Yes, some very prominent citizens owned this seemingly unglamorous business, but in its time it was an important industry and it provided our early settlers with a source of income before they had a crop to harvest. For anyone interested, there is a restored ashery open to the public in Kirtland, Ohio.

St. Johns was growing. New homes and store buildings were going up all over town. To take advantage of this building boom, **Alfred Fildew, Ira D. Nichols, E. L. Nichols, and A. Lapham** formed the St. Johns Cooperative Co. in 1874. They purchased the old ashery lot and erected a new factory and planing mill where they manufactured doors, sash, and blinds, sold lumber; & operated a building contracting business. They also had a mill for grinding feed.

In the 1870's steam powered American industry and the Co-Operative Co. had a 25-horsepower steam engine made by the Bay State Iron Works of Erie, PA., to operate their woodworking machinery. This business operated successfully for several years. Then on the morning of 5 March 1879 a fatal accident occurred at their factory. Following is an account from the *Clinton Independent*: 6 March 1879

A DISTRESSING ACCIDENT

A Man Wound about a Shaft

Death the price of Economy or Negligence

Yesterday morning our citizens were shocked by the announcement that **Ira D. Nichols**, one of the firm and lately appointed manager of the St. Johns Co-Operative Co., had been fatally injured by having his clothing caught under a belt which he was adjusting to a main wheel on the main shaft situated in the basement of their works, in a manner as to coil his resisting form about the shaft, literally crushing his legs and arms, but doing little or no injury to his head, which left him conscious and able to tell his own story of this, the saddest event of his life. The accident occurred at about 10 a.m. and he closed his scenes with this life at about 11 o'clock. He was in his 49th year and leaves a wife and two children who have the kindest sympathies of our whole community.

Shortly after this event, the Co-Operative Co. was taken over by **Alfred, Henry, and Frank Fildew** and became known as Fildew Brothers. The Fildew Brothers decided to add a spoke works to their business. The timber in this area was of very good quality for the making of spokes for wagon and buggy wheels. Soon orders were coming in so fast they decided to concentrate all of their efforts to this part of the business.

Stay tuned. In Part II we will cover The Anchor Spoke Works and Cooper Boiler & Engine Co. If anyone has photos relating to any of these business that we could copy and preserve for future generations, please contact the author at 989-224-3064 or the Clinton Co. Historical Society.

LAFAYETTE & ELLEN MARIE (HALBERT) JONES

By Janalynn Martens

Dr. Lafayette Jones Died at His Home in St. Johns September 29.

Lafayette Jones, eldest son of **George and Chloe Jones**, was born in Novi, Oakland Co., Mich., June 9, 1843. When two years old his parents located on a farm near Grand Ledge. His boyhood days were spent among the virgin forests that abounded in the pioneer days of Michigan. After completing a common school education, he worked at various pursuits that enabled him to enter the University of Michigan where he was graduated from the College of Medicine and Surgery. He commenced practicing as a physician in 1866.

He married Miss **Marie Halbert** of Grand Ledge and resided in Pewamo and Essex, later coming to St. Johns, where they have lived for over 24 years in which time they have traveled considerably, both at home and abroad, thus enjoying the fruits of their labor.

After an illness of six months, he passed away suddenly, Sept. 29, 1916, much beloved by a large circle of relatives and friends. His kindly acts and pleasant companionship will not be forgotten by all who knew him.

The funeral services were held at the family residence, conducted by the Rev. L. K. Long of the Congregational Church of Ovid. He was laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery at Grand Ledge, where his parents and other relatives are buried.

Besides the wife, he leaves three sisters and four brothers, namely: **Mrs. Emma Miller, Mrs. Florence Stringer, Mrs. Ida West; Arthur and Dr. Freeman A. Jones** of Lansing, **John Ball and Ernest Jones** of Grand Ledge, all of whom were privileged to be present at the funeral service.

(Clinton Republican; 5 Oct 1916)

Dr. Lafayette Jones Dead

Dr. Lafayette Jones, for many years a practicing physician at St. Johns, died at that place on Saturday from heart trouble, at the age of 73 years. **Ernest M. Jones** and **John B. Jones** of Oneida are brothers of the deceased. Mrs. Jones had been at St. Louis for treatment at a sanitarium and on her arrival home on Saturday morning was surprised to see that lights in the house were on. When she entered she found her husband dead. He is survived only by the widow, who is a sister of **Mrs. Alice Streeter** of this city.

(Grand Ledge Independent; 6 Oct 1916)

Mrs. Maria H. Jones, Aged 90, Dies at Home in This City July 24th

Mrs. Maria H. Halbert Jones, for more than 40 years a resident of St. Johns, passed away at her home, 202 Cass Street east, late Wed. evening, July 24, after a heart attack... Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery in Grand Ledge.

Mrs. Jones had been in failing health for several months and had been cared for by her sister, Mrs. Alice Streeter, who lived with her during the last 18 years. Besides Mrs. Streeter, Mrs. Jones leaves another sister, **Mrs. W. I. McMaster** of Conroe, Texas, a nephew and niece who live in New York state and a nephew in Grand Ledge.

Maria H. Halbert was born in Perry, N.Y., August 16, 1845. She came to Grand ledge in 1861 where she married Dr. Lafayette Jones, Jan. 15, 1867. They came to St. Johns in 1894 and the doctor died here in 1916. Mrs. Jones was an attendant of the Congregational Church in this city and a member of the Woman's Club where she was known for her interesting papers. She will be missed by a large circle of friends in the city and surrounding country.

(Clinton Co. Republican-News; 25 Jul 1935)

Jones Estate Over \$115,000

Bonds, farm mortgages, and public utilities company stocks worth \$115,000 were left by Mrs. Maria Halbert Jones, widow of the late Dr. Lafayette Jones, and a resident of St. Johns 40 years, who died at her home here July 24, 1935... Clinton Memorial Hospital was bequeathed \$1,000 by Mrs. Jones, while the St. Johns Congregational Church, where she attended services will also receive \$1,000. A third bequest of the same amount goes to Olivet College. ...

(Clinton Co. Republican-News; 15 Aug 1935)

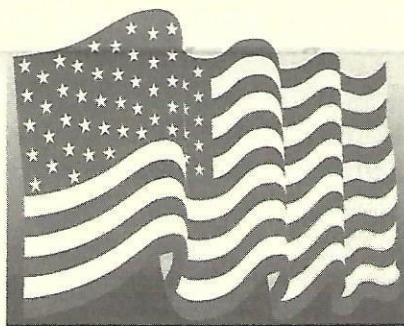
W. R. ROACH COMPANY

Operations are in full swing at the W. R. Roach vinery plant in St. Johns where four threshing machines were set in motion Friday, June 28, to handle the 1935 crop of early peas. According to **William Bearndt**, field man for the company who son, William Jr., is in charge at the vinery, the quality and quantity of the peas this year is the best on record. The company contracted 225 acres of the early variety in the St. Johns area and the farmers are harvesting from 1 ¼ to 1 ½ tons of shelled peas to the acre. The price paid for best quality peas is \$35 per ton, and since most of them are in fine shape it is expected that the whole acreage will bring an average of at least \$32 per ton, or a total of \$9,000 for the crop.

When the vinery was visited Tuesday, two trucks were unloading into the threshers, which are operated by tractor engines, and eight more were waiting in line to unload. A crew of 10 men was busy in the plant with six more on the stacks outside, and 10 truckers hauling in the loads from the fields. "We started at 5 o'clock this morning and will be busy until 9 tonight," said Mr. Bearndt. "Working long hours it will take us at least two weeks to finish the job and then a littler later we will have 300 acres of late peas to handle."

When threshed out the peas are packed in 38-pound boxes and trucked to the Roach canning plant in Owosso. The vines are stacked at the vinery and hauled away later by the growers to be used as stock feed. The capacity of the local plant is 15 tons of shelled peas per day.

(Clinton Co. Republican-News; June 1935)



PRESIDENTS, SOLDIERS, STATESMEN

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

ZEPHANIAH SEXTON, a native of Clark Co., Ohio., was born May 23, 1839, and was a son of **Zephaniah and Alvira (Clemmons) Sexton**, deceased. He was married three times. First, July 3, 1867, to **Mary Doty** who was born in Oakland Co., Mich., Sept. 16, 1846; by whom he had one child, **Carrie**. He was married secondly to **Sarah E. Mann**, now deceased, who bore him two children, **Verna and Nettie**, also dec. The maiden name of the third wife was **Anna Neal**, deceased. Comrade Sexton's record as a soldier is a noble one, enlisting Sept. 2, 1861, from his native county as a private in Co. D, 2 Mich. V.I., and in due time rose to the rank of Corp. and Sergt. March 1864 he was ill with pneumonia and was cared for in hospital at Louisville, Ky., for nineteen days. Jan. 1, 1864, he was honorably discharged to re-enlist as a veteran and was granted a thirty days furlough usually given to veterans. Nov. 1863 he was put on special service in Regtl. hospital at Knoxville for eight months. His battle list includes some hard-fought fields: Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Charles City Cross Roads, Malvern Hill, 2nd Bull Run, Chantilli, Vicksburg, Blue Springs, Loudoun, Lenoir Station, Campbell Station, Siege of Knoxville, Ft. Sanders, Strawberry Plains, Wilderness, Spottsylvania, North Anna River, Totopotomy, Bethesda Church, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Reams Station, Poplar Springs Church, Hatchers Run, Ft. Steedmen, and Petersburg. He was honorably discharged Aug. 8, 1864, at Detroit, Mich. His father's brother Jonathan Sexton, served in the Rev. War. Our subject has been J.P. four years. He belongs to Grisson Post 150. He is a farmer and his address is Price, Mich.

WILLIAM H. SWEENEY was born in South Bend, Ind., Oct. 12, 1844, and was a son of **Robert and Margaret (Rogers) Sweeney**, both deceased. In November, 1873, in Bath, Mich., he united his fortunes for life with **Agnes Peck**, who was born in Medina Co., Ohio, Sept. 1847. She was a daughter of **William and Eliza (Wilson) Peck**, long since deceased. To this marriage were given three children: **Earl, Millie** (dec.), and **William**. When the war broke out our subject was engaged in farming. He enlisted in defense of the Stars and Stripes July 5, 1861, as a private in Co. F, 8th Ill. V.V.I., and before the close of hostilities he had attained the rank of Sergt. Apr. 6, 1862, he was wounded at Shilo by shell. He entered hospital at New Albany, Ind., for four weeks and was later removed to Keokuk, for wound. He was furloughed for sixty days from hospital and returned to same at end of time. In July 1862 he was put in Mtd. Inf. at Jackson, till October following. Jan. 4, 1864, he was honorably discharged and immediately re-enlisted in same command. His Regt. bore conspicuous part in the fierce engagements of Norfolk; Hunter Tavern; Ft. Henry; Donaldson; Shilo; Lookout Mt.; Corinth; Grenada; Vicksburg; Pt. Gibson; Raymond; four engagements at Jackson, Miss.; Champion Hill; Black River; Spanish Ft.; Ft. Blakely; and Jackson; receiving his final honorable discharge May 4, 1866, at Baton Rouge, La. His wife's grandfather served in the Revolutionary War and was twice taken prisoner. A brother of our subject **James**, enlisted Apr. 19, 1861, when 18 years old as a member of co. B, 15 Ind. V.I. 14th A.C. and was soon made Sergt. He was transferred to Army of Cumberland in Dec. 1861, from Beverly W. Va., to Louisville, Ky. He was detailed in Com. Dept. at Louisville as commissary Sergt. for six months. Dec. 31, 1862, he was wounded in thigh by shell; the following month he was taken to hospital at Nashville, was transferred to Louisville, and later to Camp Denison, in consequence of wound. He fought at Rich Mt.; Laurel Hill; Beverly Ford; Elk Water; Greenbrier; Bowling Green; Duck River; Pittsburg Landing; Corinth; Iuka; Perryville; Stone River; and Missionary Ridge. He was honorably discharged June 22, 1864, at Indianapolis. Our subject belongs to G.W. Anderson Post 54. He is a farmer and his address is Bath, Mich.

HIRAM TOOKER was a son of **Hiram and Harriet (Briggs) Tooker**, deceased, and was born April 10, 1840, in Bath, Mich. His wife is **Mary B.** of Jackson Co., Mich., and they were married in Barry Co., Mich., Nov. 13, 1864. She was born Aug. 19, 1844, a daughter of **William C. and Faca M. (Thompson) Barker**. The former is deceased; the latter is still living, aged 73 years. The record of their children is: **Ella A.** (married **M. B. Sobers** who died March 29, 1896); **George** (dec.); **Nelson; Herbert; Minnie;** and **Angie**. Comrade Tooker was among the veterans of the war, having enlisted Sept. 25, 1861, in Jackson Co., Mich., where he had been engaged in farming. He was 21 years old when he was enrolled in Co. C., 9th Mich. V.I., 23d Brig. In June 1862 he was confined in hospital at Murfreesboro and Nashville with chronic diarrhea. July 13, 1862, he was captured at Murfreesboro by Forrest's Cav. and was held at that place for one week. He did not take part in any heavy battles and he was honorably discharged Aug. 9, 1862, at Nashville, Tenn. His stepfather served in the War of 1812. His wife's grandfather also served in the War of 1812 and his widow drew a pension. Her brother **George C.**, served in 17 Mich. V.I. Two other brothers, **Noah and Thomas**, served in Mechanical Eng. Corps. Comrade Tooker was honored with the office of Com. of Wm. Showerman Post, in Bath, until it disbanded. He has held various twp. offices, including clerk for 18 years and common school inspector. He is a retired farmer and his address is Bath, Michigan.

HIRAM D. TREAT, whose parents **James D. and Betsey (McKensie) Treat** are deceased, was born in Rochester, N.Y., Aug. 29, 1838. His wife, to whom he was: married Dec. 27, 1866, in Pennsylvania, bore the maiden name of **Huldah Masters**. She was a native Pennsylvanian, born July 21, 1844, a daughter of **William Masters**, long ago deceased. As the fruit of this marriage, seven children were born in the order here named: Georgia, Arthur, Lulu, Willy, Dewey, Claude, and Leo. Comrade Treat endured the hardships [and] privations of a soldier's life during the late war, being a member of Co. I, 1st Mich. V.I. He enlisted April 18, 1861, at Marshall, Mich., and was honorably discharged Aug. 7, 1861, at Detroit, Mich. He re-enlisted with rank as Sergt. Sept. 24,

1861, in co. A, 1st Mich. Lancers at Detroit, Mich. This Co. disbanded March 20 by order of War Department without any service in the field. He was again enrolled July 4, 1862, as Sergt. in Co. A., 4th Mich. Cav., at Detroit, Mich., and before the close of hostilities had attained the rank of 2d Lieut. Nov. 24, 1864. He participated in the battles of Bull Run July 21, 1861; Stone River; Shelbyville; Chickamauga; Nooday Creek; Lovejoy Station; and Selma Ala. He was granted his final honorable discharge July 1, 1865. His brother, **William T.**, and his wife's brothers, **Simon, Sylvester, Joel,** and **Elias** served their country in the hour of peril. Comrade Treat is a member of G.A. Winans Post 104. He is a liveryman and is a resident of Ovid, Mich.

HART L. UPTON was born in Mass, June 23, 1827, and was a son of **Elias and Tryphena (Upton) Upton**, both long ago deceased. He came to Clinton Co., Mich., in 1856, having previously married Oct. 7, 1852, in Franklin Co., Mass, **Nancy Dole**. She was born in Mass., Oct. 4, 1833, and was a daughter of **Orpheus and Polly (Fair) Dole**, deceased. One child was the issue of this marriage: **Fred R.** When the war broke out, out subject's heart was with the northern cause and he enlisted in the federal service. He was engaged in farming when he was mustered in Dec. 3, 1863, at Ovid, Mich., as a private in Co. I, 27 Mich. V.I., 1st Brig., 1st Div., 9th A.C., and in due time made Corp. Aug. 1864 he was ill with chronic diarrhea and was treated for same in hospital for six months. Oct. 26, 1864, he was furloughed for thirty days. This was extended twenty and he rejoined his command at end of time. In 1864 he was detailed on provost duty for two months in East. Tenn. He fought at some of the most important battles of the war: Wilderness; Spottsylvania; North Anna River; Cold Harbor; Bethesda Church; and Capture of Pt. Mahone. He was honorably discharged July 26, 1865, at Washington D.C. His brother **Gustus** served in the Union army. Comrade Upton is a member of Henry Demming Post 192. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Victor, Michigan.

GEORGE VANSKOY was born in Yates Co., NY, Dec. 12, 1846, and was a son of **James Vanscoy** who is no longer living. Nov. 8, 1872, he united his fortunes for life with **Melissa R. Cooper**. Her father, **Benjamin Cooper**, served his country in the hour of peril and is still living, as is also her mother, **Clominda (Blanchard) Cooper**. The offspring of this union is three children: **Charles, Minerva,** and **George**. Comrade Vanscoy underwent the hardships and privations of a soldier's life and was a brave and true defender of his country. He had been engaged in farming and was 17 years of age when he was enrolled from Norwalk, O., in 1862. He entered the ranks of Co. F, 3 O. Cav., as a private. He was taken prisoner and endured the cruelties of Libby Prison for three months. With this exception he was always at his post of duty taking part in the engagements of his command. Upon the close of the war he was honorably discharged at Washington, D.C., June 1865. He had two brothers in the service. His mother and sister took an equally active interest in the late war, the former serving as a nurse for three years and the latter in the same capacity for two years. His wife's uncle also served in the war. Comrade Vanscoy passed from earth July 2, 1886, having dropped dead from heart failure in the street near his home. His widow has a pension and his address is Bath, Mich.

AMOS C. VAN ORSDOL, son of **Christopher and Rachel (Decamp) VanOrsdol**, deceased, was born in Yates Co., N.Y., May 21, 1835. Jan. 1, 1862, he married **Mary Green** whose parents, **William and Martha (Dixon) Green**, are no longer living. She was born March 28, 1845. One child was the issue of this marriage: **Willie**. Comrade VanOrsdol is an old soldier who served his country faithfully and well during the late war. He was enrolled Sept. 3, 1864, at Hammonsport, N.Y., as a private in Co. C., 189 N.Y. V. I., 2 Brig., 1st Div., 5th A.C. In the winter of 1865 he was confined in hospital at Hatcher Run, suffering from general debility. Sept. 4, 1864, he was furloughed for thirty days and reported for duty at end of time. In March 1865, he was detailed on

special duty at Hatchers Run. When able he took part in all the engagements of his command and was honorably discharged May 30, 1865, at Elmira, N.Y. His wife's brother, **Simeon**, served in the late war. Comrade VanOrsdol is a member of G.H. Winans Post 104. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Shepardsville, Mich.

ANDREW H. WAGER was born in N.Y. State, June 26, 1844, and was the son of **Hanford and Catherine (Mills) Wager**, deceased. He was united in the bonds of matrimony Dec. 28, 1865, to **Helen Hawley**, who was born in Tompkins Co., N.Y. Her father, **Andrew Hawley**, is deceased, but her mother, **Sophia (Coghlin)**, is still spared. To this marriage were born the following children: **Charles** (dec.); **William** (dec.); **Jesse**; **Elmer**; and **Nathan**. Comrade Wager's army life dates from June 19, 1862, when he was enrolled from Tompkins Co., N.Y., as a private in Co. H, 107 N.Y.V.I., 3 Brig., 1st Div., 12 and 20 A.C. The regiment was organized at Elmira, N.Y., in August 1862, for the three years' service and was mustered out June 5, 1865. Recruits were transferred to the 60th N.Y. Col. Robert VanValkenburg was discharged Oct. 9, 1862. Col. Alexander S. Diven was brevetted Brigadier-General Aug. 30, 1862, and discharged the following May. Col. Miron M. Crane, Brevet Brigadier-General, was in command of the regiment during the latter part of its service. The regiment served most conspicuously in the Twelfth Corps, although it was for a time in other corps. Its heaviest loss was at New Hope Church where, out of 358 men taken into action, 47 or over 13 percent, were killed. Col. Fox, in his Regimental Losses, makes mention of the fact. At that time the regiment was in Williams' Division. Its total loss in the service was four officers and 87 men killed in action or died of wounds and 131 men died of disease, in prison, etc. Of the regiment, Col. Fox says, "The 107th N. Y. was the first regiment from the north to organize under the second call and the first to arrive in Washington, in acknowledgment of which it received a banner from the state and on its arrival at Washington was greeted by a personal visit from the president. It was a fine regiment and though its casualties were not among the largest, it made a splendid record for discipline and efficiency." May 25, 1864, he was wounded at New Hope Church by shell and was treated for same in hospital at Nashville for seven weeks. He was also stricken with small pox and received treatment for six weeks. July 1864 he was furloughed for thirty days. This was extended and he was honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., March 21, 1865. In the winter of 1862-3 he had been detailed to unload boats for six weeks. He took part in the battles of Antietam, Chancellorsville, Resaca, and New Hope Church. Comrade Wager is a member of Anderson Post 58, and his wife belongs to W.R.C. He is at present engaged in farming and his address is DeWitt, Mich.

GEORGE H. WEST was born in Oswego Co., N.Y., Oct. 17, 1837, and was a son of **H. John and Maria (Munn) West**, deceased. Mrs. West, who before marriage May 10, 1860, was **Mary E. Lane**, was born in Catteraugus Co., N.Y., Dec. 30, 1834. By this marriage there are four children: **Lucy M.**, **Luther A.**, **Minnie E.**, and **George S.** Comrade West served a short time during the late unpleasantness, in the Union army. He was enrolled March 24, 1865, at Salem, Mich., in Co. K, 24th Mich. V.I. In June 1865 he was furloughed for thirty days and reported for duty at end of time. Owing to his late enlistment he was not called into active service. He was honorably discharged June 13, 1865, at Detroit, Mich. His wife's brother, **G.W.** served. He was confined in hospital three months in 1862-3 on account of rheumatism. Comrade West is in receipt of a pension and his post office address is Ovid, Mich., near which place he is engaged in farming.

GILBERT WHEELER - **William and Miranda (Payne) Wheeler**, deceased, are the parents of our subject who was born in Broome Co., N.Y., June 19, 1823. He has been twice

married. He was first married June 9, 1846, to **Eliza J. Hulburt**, who was born in Bradford Co., Pa., Aug. 7, 1823. One child was the issue of this marriage: **Hattie**. He was married secondly to **Hattie Thornburg**, also deceased. The maiden name of his third wife was **Adalaide Post**. Comrade Wheeler was engaged in farming when the war broke out. He enlisted Oct. 1864 when 43 years old as a private in Co. M, 1st Wis. Cav., and shared its fortunes and its glories during his term of enlistment. He 1864-5 he was detailed three or four days to dig trenches. He was also detailed to guard prisoners at Camp Chase. He fought at Hopkinsville, Centreville, Ft. Tyler, Geary, and several others. He was honorably discharged July 29, 1865, at Nashville, Tenn. His present wife had a brother in service, **William**, who broke his arm while building bridge. Comrade Wheeler is a member of G. A. Winans Post 104. His wife is Assist. Guard of W.R.C.. He has been supervisor three years and clerk seven years. He is living in retirement and his address is Ovid, Mich.

WILLIAM M. WHERRY, son of **William H. and Emily (Brower) Wherry**, deceased, was born March 25, 1843. Settling in Clinton Co., in 1865, he was married Oct. 21, 1865, to **Rachel Carloh**. She was a daughter of **James Carloh**, dec, and **Anna M. (Livingston)**, also dec. , and was born in Rockland Co., N.Y., Sept. 2, 1844. When the war broke out our subject's heart was with the northern cause and he entered the federal army Oct. 30, 1863, as a private in Co. A, 115 N.Y.V.I., 2 Brig., 3 Div., 10 A.C., and in due time was made Ord. Sergt. He was accidentally wounded at Beuford, S.C., in the fall of 1863 and was treated in general hospital at that place for three months where a piece of the knife was extracted from his leg just above the knee. May 1863 he was furloughed for thirty days and returned for duty at end of time. In the spring of 1865 he was transferred at Raleigh, N.C., to Co. G. 47 N.Y.V.I. While in active service he participated in the battles of James River, Chapins Farm, Ft. Fisher, and several skirmishes, receiving an honorable discharge Aug. 30, 1865, at Raleigh N.C. His brother, **David**, served in Co. A, 115 N.Y.V.I., and was taken prisoner and held at Andersonville for three months and Tallahoosa for five months. Comrade Wherry is employed in a grist mill and he resides in Bath, Mich.

HARVEY WILSON, a native of Michigan, was born in Ovid, Nov. 19, 1840. He was a son of **Silas and Rebecca (Eldridge) Wilson**, both of whom have long since been numbered with the dead. He settled with his wife in Clinton Co., Mich., in 1883, having been married Oct. 1, 1867, in Hillsdale Co., Mich., to **Martha Wade**. One child was the issue of this union: **Clara L.** His wife was born in Leander, N.Y., July 29, 1843. Her father, **William Wade**, is deceased, but her mother, **Margaret (Jeffers)** is still living. When war's grim, visaged front burst upon the nation, our subject was engaged in farming. He was enrolled Oct. 1861 at Hillsdale, Mich., when 20 years old as a private in Co. G, 2 Mich. Cav. May 1, 1862, he was furloughed for thirty days and returned to command at end of time. He participated with his command in the battles of Island No. 10, Shiloh, and Perryville. His term expiring, he was honorably discharged Dec. 23, 1862. His brother, **Perry**, served in the late war and was sick in hospital at Washington for one year. Comrade Wilson is a pensioner. He is a prosperous farmer near Ovid, Mich., which is his post office address.

JOHN W. WILSON was born Nov. 9, 1833, in West Virginia, a son of **Warren and Naomi (Smead)**, deceased. He was married April 22, 1855, in Iosco, Mich., to **Mary A. Smith** who was born Nov. 8, 1833, in Oswego Co., N.Y. Four children were born of them: **Lucetta** married **Alonzo Webster**; **Mina E.** married **Ira Shaw**; **Sarah**, dec.; and **Rosaltha**. Comrade Wilson was a member of Co. B, 26 Mich. V.I., and has an honorable war record. He had been engaged in farming when he was enrolled Aug. 9, 1862. He was furloughed Dec. 1863 for thirty days and at expiration of time reported for duty. His Regt. was ordered to Alexandria, Va., on provost duty. It was then detailed to Suffolk to build entrenchments for two weeks. It also was ordered to New York in 1864 to quell the draft riots then occurring in the city. He also fought at Windsor, Yorktown, Bottoms Bridge, Mine Run, Mortons Ford, Orange C.H., Parkers Store, Corbins Bridge, Po River, and Wilderness. He sacrificed his life on the altar of his country May 12, 1864, at Spottsylvania. His brother, **Calvin**, also served in the war but nothing is known of his fate. A second brother, **Martin**,

was drafted. **George** died of disease in the service. **Warren, George, and Austin**, brothers, also served. Her grandfather, **Austin Smith**, served in the Rev. War. Mrs. Wilson, after seventeen years of widowhood, married **William Richardson**, who died April 26, 1890. She is now residing in Bath, Michigan.

WARREN WILSON was born in Genesee Co., N.Y., May 20, 1838, and was a son of **Warren and Maomi (Smead) Wilson**, deceased. He was united in marriage May 12, 1861, in Livingston Co., Mich., to **Eliza A. Smith**, who was born in that county Feb. 22, 1844, and passed to a higher life Apr. 15, 1897. Her parents, **John and Cynthia (Coffee) Smith**, have also gone to their reward. The offspring of this union is as follows: **Calvin, Henry, Edith, Winnie, Lucetta, Bertha, William, and Nora**. Their first child married **L.M. Taylor** and they have four children: **Edna, Taylor, Teron, and Everett**. Their second child married **Inez McFarren** and they have one child: **Leo**. Edith married **Charles Farnsworth** and they have one daughter: **Florence**. Winnie is the wife of **S. Aldrich** and they have two children: **Gladys and Henry**. Lucetta married **Dewitt Miller** and have two children: **Bernice and Beulah**. Comrade Wilson offered his service to help defend the flag so near and dear to every soldier's heart. He was enrolled Aug. 13, 1862, as corp. in Co. H. 26 Mich. V.I., 1st Brig., 1st Div., 2 A.C. In the winter of 1863-4 he was detailed to work in a mill. His active hostilities were Siege of Suffolk, Windsor, Mine Run, Wilderness, Corbin's Bridge, Ny River, Po River, and Spottsylvania. He was wounded at the latter engagement May 12, 1864, in side. He was taken to hospital at Washington for four weeks. He was then transferred to Detroit, Mich., between Dec. and Jan., where he was honorably discharged May 11, 1865, on account of disability. June 14, 1864, he was furloughed for thirty days with extension, and returned at end of time. His brothers, **Calvin and George**, were in service. His grandfather **Wilson** served in the war of 1812, and a cousin who served in the late war was confined in Andersonville prison for 22 months. His wife's brother, **Henry**, served in Co. D, 21 Mich. V.I. and died from disability in service. Comrade Wilson was a member of Wm. Showerman Post. He is at present engaged in farming and his address is Bath, Mich.

JAMES H. WORDEN, a native of New York, was born May 17, 1830. He was a son of **Vartam and Abigail Worden**, now deceased. His helpmate on life's journey was **Patience Harper**, the nuptial knot being tied in 1850. She was born in England and was a daughter of **James and Elizabeth (Harper) Harper**, long ago deceased. Comrade Worden served his country in the War of the Rebellion. He was engaged in farming when he was enrolled March 1864, when 29 years old, as a private in Co. G, S.S. 2 Brig., 1st Div., 9th A.C. In August 1864 he was confined in field hospital at Wilderness two months on account of general debility. He was taken prisoner in May 1864 at Wilderness but was immediately released on parole. He took part in the fierce engagement at Wilderness and several skirmishes. He was honorably discharged Aug. 16, 1865, at Detroit, Mich. His father served in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Comrade Worden is a member of Winans Post 104. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Victor, Mich.

(This concludes the series.)



Do you enjoy listening to stories of yonder years? Do you remember special events or even everyday happening when you were growing up in the early 1900's? Does that special grandparent or even your uncle or aunt always tell such intriguing stories of when they were young? Then we're looking for you!!

The Clinton County Historical Society and the Friends of the Maple River are looking for anyone who would be willing to share their story and especially, someone to interview these folks for an oral history of Clinton County and/or life and memories along the Maple River. If this is of interest to you, you can call the Archives at 517-482-5117 ext. 2, during their operational hours.

EARLY SETTLER - EARLY FAMILY CERTIFICATES:

To date the Genealogists of the Clinton Co. Historical Society have awarded 82 certificates to descendants of Clinton County's early residents, those who were here at least before 1900. The applications which include the required documentation are all on file at the Archives. A list of all recipients can be found on our webpage and the forms to apply for this recognition can be downloaded there also at this site: www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS Following is a list of the settlers whose descendants have received certificates since June 2006:

Charles William Bauerle
John E. Haueter
William Riley Newman
Heman Thomas
Michael John Tout
Aaron A. Norris

Dues Renewal Time

Your newsletter
address has you
subscription date.

- **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.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

LIST 5 NAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING

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E-Mail Address _____ Date _____

ANNUAL DUES to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15 single and \$20 a couple/family. Membership is based on the calendar year and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *Clinton County Trails*. Checks should be made payable to the Clinton County Historical Society and mailed to P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879. Genealogical queries should be addressed to: Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23 St. Johns, MI 48879.

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