

# CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS

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Catherine & John Rumbaugh

#### **Historical Society**

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Lynne Gregory & Catherine Rumbaugh

[P-G-S Museum Press Release]

## Museum Hosts Reception

Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum hosted a celebration of John and Catherine Rumbaugh at the Museum on Sunday, October 9, 2011. Clinton County formed a Historical Society in February, 1978, with John as Treasurer. The couple's vision of creating a historic house museum came to fruition on May of 1979, when the Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum at 106 Maple Street in St. Johns opened its doors for the first time. Their vision, knowledge, and enthusiasm, along with endless time and talents set the standards for the museum's continuance.

Catherine served the Historical Society as President for many years, and continued her work following John's death in 1998. She became the Executive Director of the Museum at it's opening, and continued in that capacity for nearly 32 years until her retirement in December of 2010.

At the reception, Catherine Rumbaugh was honored with the titles "Historian" and "Director Emeritus" by Lynne Gregory of the Clinton County Historical Society. Eighty guests attended the reception, and many others sent cards and notes of gratitude.



### **REED CEMETERY ASSOCIATION**

(edited from an unsigned manuscript written ca 1956)

Reed Cemetery Association was organized in the spring of 1904 at the Reed Church. This is one of the three cemeteries in Victor Township that were bought by the town board after town meeting in April 1844. The records show the land was bought from **Ainsworth Reed** property in sections 21-22 that he bought in 1858 and being one mile square. This report is memories by an active charter member.

In early days cemeteries were not very well cared for and in 1904 several ladies from the community met at the church to organize for work to improve the cemetery. Officers elected at the organization meeting were: President, **Mrs. L. J. Sleight**; Secretary, **Mrs. Leroy Reed**; and **Mrs. J. D. Sleight**, Treasurer. The meeting date was the last Wednesday of each month and still is. We observed our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at our memorial service in 1954 in the Reed Church that was built in 1877 which is located in front of the cemetery.

Quilt making was a winter project and we have an autograph quilt top with the date 1905 embroidered on a block. Names were solicited at ten cents each and embroidered on the blocks. This quilt top is in good repair and is the property of **Gracia Sexton.** We have all records from 1914 to the present time.

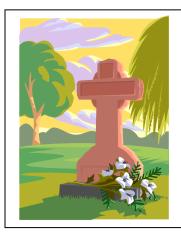
For a number of years meals were served to the public once a month, either dinner or supper. The meals were potluck except the main dishes. Early reports show the receipts were not enough to accomplish all that needed to be done. This accounts for socials, a fair, work bees, and donations. Without the help of everyone, especially the men of the community, and the paid caretaker, we could not have accomplished so much.

The first work was grading the circle drive at the back and graveling from entrance all around and setting trees and shrubs. We built a fence at front and a hitching rail; built a tool house; put down a well and built a trellis over it; built a vault; bought two urns and a lawn seat; laid out flower beds in the forks of the drive at the front which we fill with plants each year; bought a gas engine and pump jack and laid water pipes north – south through center aisle. Fifty-two years ago it was horse and buggy days. The work was done the hard way, by hand and horse-drawn equipment.

After electricity came to the vicinity and the gas engine began to cause trouble, we changed to an electric motor for pumping water. It was necessary to repair the old gate. Finding it beyond repair, we built brick pillars and bought a new gate; again, work was donated. We graveled the drive all around and out to the road in 1951. In 1954 we graded and leveled lots at the back and part of the southeast side. Now this is a pretty place displaying a centennial pine tree. For a few years we have mowed the church lawn out to the cemetery gate. The last two years have we have mowed east of the drive around the church and to the fence. This year plans are made to install an electric pump.

At the present time we have three committees, each serving one dinner and supper to the public during the year. A fall fair is an added activity. We elect our officers each year. The 1956 officers are: President, Mrs. Wilma Stichle; Secretary; Mrs. Gene Morrell; and Treasurer, Mrs. Violet Cortright.

Much of our work has been the necessary things to keep the place looking well. Down through the years we have worked with this thought, not to let the pioneers of this organization down. It gives us a feeling of pride to walk through our cemetery.



## **NEWZ FROM EARLY PAPERS**

Courtesy of archives staff & other discerning researchers.

**Until quite recently the electric motor** has been partly a dream and partly a too expensive reality. Now however, a new type of battery has developed the electric motor power into a practical fact. the new batteries are small, cheap, compact, of moderate weight, and perfectly satisfactory in application. Vehicles can be driven along the street at a rate exceeding the ordinary pace of a horse, yet so perfectly controllable that accidents from collision are less liable than from a spirited team. Indeed, the claim is made, apparently on good grounds, that the electric wagon, dray, or carriage can be stopped instantly. The use of pneumatic tire will render them noiseless though danger from that source will be obviated by automatic bell signals. Electrically driven omnibuses will shortly appear upon the thoroughfares of our large cities. *Demorest's Family Magazine. (Maple Rapids Dispatch*; 20 Sep 1894)

**Stephen H. Hicks** of Bingham has a new corn cutter and harvester which he made and it is a time saver too. He has applied for a patent. It will require two men and a team of horses to operate it. Last fall he harvested his corn with one and states that he put up 150 shocks in a little over four hours. The corn is harvested in shocks by an arrangement on the back of the machine. The platform is arranged in such a way that there is not much danger in being cut. (*Clinton Republican*; 16 Mar 1900)

**"Talk about railroads** being accommodating," said Adna Hunt to *The News* yesterday. "The Michigan Suburban deserves the medal for reaching the climax of that virtue. There are few railroads where trains are stopped to save valuable stock except in cases where human lives are endangered, but I actually saw a train on the new Lansing railroad stopped on day last week because a flock of ducks refused to leave the track at the warning whistle from the locomotive. The fireman climbed down from the cab and shooed away the troublesome web-footed birds from the right of way and after they were safely out of harm's reach he boarded the engine and the train again resumed its way. I expect that before long the engineer will stop his train and rock the cradle of crying infants along the line where negligent mammas have gone to visit the neighbors. In any event I want to say that no one has any complaint to make and everyone is more than pleased with the service being given on the new road." (*St. Johns News*; 10 Apr 1902)

Archives hours will change Jan 1, 2012. The room **will no longer be open on Fridays** but volunteers will be available that day by appointment. Call 517-626-6748 or 517-803-7372.

Note: "Archives closed on legal holidays."

**Correction**: Bion Bates was born **4 Oct 1884**, not 12 Oct 1884 as was printed in the previous issue.

## **OUR SUPERVISORS**

#### *Clinton Independent*; 16 Jan 1879, page 1 [Note: Article gives no profile for the Duplain & Riley Supervisors]

Below we have prepared a brief biographical sketch of the men composing our present Board of Supervisors, who finished their January session on Friday last, the 10<sup>th</sup>. Their deliberations throughout have been marked with discretion and good judgment until the close, when, like the old man in his dotage and declining years, some of them became weary of the scene and shuffled off the responsibilities of this life in a reckless manner.

Orrin F. Peck, of Essex, was born in Wayne Co., MI., in 1838, where he remained until 1860, when he went to Cortland, NY, where he was married and remained four years, after which he returned to this state and settled in Northville, Wayne Co., where he remained two years when he removed to this county (being in the fall of 1866) and settled in Maple Rapids, where he has since remained, having been engaged in the hardware business the whole of the time since his residence in Essex. He has held the office of Town Clerk five years and that of Supervisor four years. For the past two years he has held the high and responsible office of Grand Treasurer for the ancient Order of United Workmen-a mutual insurance organization-and since the 26th of August last, up to the present time, has paid out \$12,000 for the relief and benefit of the families of the insured. Mr. Peck commenced the hardware business in Maple Rapids when he was comparatively bare handed, but through his energy and economy, has earned for himself and family a handsome property. Mr. Peck is a tinsmith by trade. [1838-1887; buried in Sowle Cemetery]

**Jacob C. E. Gumaer**, of Ovid, was born in Orange Co., NY, in 1820 (his parents being a mixture of German and French) where he remained until 1867, when he removed to this state and settled in the township of Ovid, near the village, where he has since resided and engaged in the honest and respected vocation of farming. The first official position he ever held within the gift of the people was that of his present term of Supervisor from that township, having being elected on the Greenback ticket last spring. His father and mother are both dead. [1820-1897; buried in Maple Grove Cemetery]

William Smith, of Westphalia, (who was appointed to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. J. H. Fedewa at this session) was born in Prussia in 1840 and emigrated to this county with his parents in 1846 and settled in Westphalia on section five where he remained for three years, when he purchased 80 acres two miles west of the village. William has held the office of Town Clerk for three years, School Inspector five years, and Deputy Sheriff five years. His father and himself erected a fine grist, saw, and planning mill near the village which was destroyed by an explosion of the boiler about ten years ago, which involved a total loss of \$16,000 and the death of his father. Not long since the saw and planning mills were rebuilt and are now doing a good business. William has been engaged in the contracting and building business from 1872 to 1875, since which time he has purchased and kept the Westphalia Hotel which has been remodeled and refurnished and is now in fine condition and justly termed the home of the weary and hungry.

**Robert Richmond**, of Victor, was born in Livingston Co., NY, in 1852, and removed from there with his parents in 1864 and settled in Victor, and upon the same farm on which he now resides. Since his residence in Victor, he has held the office of Town Clerk for two years, and that of Supervisor one year (the present), and has taught the Baker School in South Ovid one term. He has sold his farm in Victor and in two or three weeks will start upon his journey for Kansas where he has a brother residing and where he expects to take up a permanent home. Mr. Richmond goes from among us with an enviable reputation as a man and citizen.

William Collins, of DeWitt, was born in Clinton Co., NY, in 1840, and when but three months old his parents came to Michigan and settled in Calhoun Co. where they remained for about two years, when they removed to this county and settled in DeWitt Twp. where the father and mother both died and where William has resided without interruption ever since—being 34 years last June. He has never experienced any of the joys and perplexities of a married life, his sister having kept house for him since the death of their parents, and through their united efforts and perfect understanding they have amassed a handsome fortune. William has served the people of his township in various capacities, having held the office of Constable four years; Commissioner of Highways three years; Justice of the Peace eight years; Supervisor five years, the present time being the fifth. He has not only earned a handsome competence in moneys, stock and lands, but has won the full and earnest confidence of his fellow townsmen, as was clearly evidenced by the political canvas last fall when he ran upon the Democratic ticket for the office of County Treasurer against Mr. Miron Ellis, one of the most prominent members of the Republican party in this county. In brief, Mr. Collins, the subject of this sketch, is a tower of strength to any community or society. [1839-1915; buried in DeWitt Cemetery]

Marshall Hand, of Olive, was born in Yates Co., NY, in 1841, and in 1814 moved with his parents to Seneca Co., in the same state where they remained until 1854, when they removed to Michigan and settled in Olive Twp., this county, where his father died in 1860, and where Marshall has resided ever since-on the same farm and old homestead. His mind, as well as his body, has always been active the for the benefit and advancement of his fellow men. He has taught nineteen terms of school in what is known as the Krebs District, but in an early day, the Flint, in Olive; and two terms in what is known as the Peck district in Bingham Twp. When he commenced his first teaching he was but 17 years old and for his services received only \$8 per month, but now, since the patrons have learned his worthy as an instructor, they willingly pay him \$35 per month. He has held the office of Clerk of his township for five consecutive years, and that of Supervisor for six consecutive years-the present being the  $6^{\text{th}}$ . He is now living with his second wife and enjoys the reputation of being a kind husband and a devoted father. He has firmly resolved to continue to live and finally die upon the old farm. He will leave a record behind that will serve as a fit lesson for the coming generation to study and profit by. He

has our best wishes for a pleasant and profitable future during the balance of his sojourn upon earth and a final and successful issue from this to a better world. [1841-1909; buried in South Bingham Cemetery]

George W. Thomas, of Eagle, was born in Pontiac, Oakland Co., MI, in 1832, and in 1834 his parents moved and settled in Eagle Twp., in this county, where they have had an uninterrupted residence ever since. His family was the second that had settled in this county-Captain Scott, the founder of DeWitt, being the first. For three years after their settlement here, they were obliged to go to Pontiac to mill, a distance of about 80 miles through an almost unbroken wilderness. The first school house ever erected in Clinton Co., was erected upon his father's farm, where a portion of the old chimney still stands protected as an old landmark for such men as William. F. Jennison who taught the school and Ezekiel Niles, David Clark, and the late Burtis H. Beers, and others who were his pupils. Mr. Thomas' father and mother are still living, the former having arrived at the age of 70 and the latter 67. They have successfully reared a large family-George, the subject of this sketch, being the first boy baby brought into this county. After his parents had resided here about six years, their house was consumed by fire while the snow was still upon the ground which added new and trying scenes to their early pioneer life. A new house was soon constructed from the heavy forest trees, and they began again to make the thick, towering trees give place to broad, fertile fields, and to permit the sunlight and the air of civilization to come in. George well recollects the time when the state capitol was located at Lansing and of the joy that it gave the people of this township to know that they had settled so near this important seat of government. He has held the office of Town Clerk four years, Highway Commissioner one year, School Inspector three years and is now serving his townsmen for the first time in the official capacity of Supervisor, having been elected on the Greenback ticket last spring by a large majority. He has taught the district school for ten years and all in all has been a valuable citizen. It is his fixed purpose and intentions to spend the balance of his days upon the old farm and with pride and comfort provide for the wants of his kind and aged parents. May his good resolutions and manly course be crowned with the greatest success. [1832-1906; buried in Niles Cemetery]

John A. Mathews, of Greenbush, was born in Steuben Co., NY, in 1832, and three years thereafter removed with his parents to Huron Co., OH, where he remained until 1855, when he left his parental roof and commenced to battle with the affairs of this cold world on his own hook. He came to Michigan and settled in Greenbush, this county, in that year and has resided there ever since without interruption. Not possessing much love for official position, he has only served his townsmen in this regard, as Supervisor, for four continuous years. For two years he fought manfully for the safety and preservation of the Union during the late, wicked rebellion, and during which service he was wounded. He is a gentleman that has always commanded the respect and confidence of his constituents, as well as of all who have had the pleasure of his acquaintance. [died 2 Dec 1905; Clinton Republican; 7 Dec 1905, p1 c1]

Josiah Upton, of Bingham, was born in old Massachusetts, in 1824, and for a short time was a resident of Vermont. His father, who was blessed with a large family, remained in Massachusetts and stuck to his little side-hill farm on which he was in debt to the amount of about \$600, when he one day said to Josiah and another son: "Boys, you must go to work and in some way help me to lift this mortgage, for I can never make it off the place." Josiah went to learn the trade of manufacturing scythe snaths [handles] and ox bows, and remained with his boss until he had earned and had coming to him the requisite amount (\$600), when the fire fiend came along and licked up the little factory and the stock on hand, leaving Josiah with but \$9 of his seemingly large and much coveted earnings. A proposition was, however, soon made to him to re-engage in the business, when Josiah said, "I have nothing with which to assist me in such an enterprise." But his friend replied: "I'll furnish the capital," and then asked: "How long would it take to erect a building and get started?" to which Josiah replied: "Between two and three weeks." This being satisfactory to his new partner, Josiah, as still characterizes him, pulled off his coat and went to work and within the specified time had things in operation. All the work was done by hand. Their trade was good and after Josiah had accumulated a considerable amount of money, he moved with his family to Michigan in 1856 and settled in Victor Twp., where thro' his earnest and untiring energies in farming, and buying and selling real estate he accumulated money rapidly and saved it. He resided in Victor twelve years, four years of which time he held the office of Town Treasurer. In 1868 he was elected to the office of County Treasurer, which necessitated his removal to St. Johns, where he has since resided, holding the office of Treasurer three successive terms, and then was defeated by the Democratic, candidate, Mr. Richard Moore for the want of votes. He has been Supervisor of Bingham four successive years; and President and Treasurer of the Clinton Co. Mutual Fire Insurance Co. for the past ten years; an active member of our School Board for the past three years; a member of the mercantile firm of Dunn & Upton for four years; and a member of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank ever since the organization of that institution. [died 4 Aug 1914; death certificate on www.seekingmichigan.org]

George W. Kinney, of Watertown, was born in Connecticut in 1820, and moved to Monroe Co., NY, in 1829, where he remained until 1835, when he moved to Michigan and settled in Livingston Co., where he remained until the fall of 1847, when he came to Clinton Co. and settled in Watertown, where he has since resided with the exceptions of about three years which he spent in California-being between the years 1852 and 1855. When he returned from California, he purchased the farm on which he now resides and which he has since increased to 120 acres. Since his residence in Watertown, he has been kept in public office the most of the time, having held the office of Highway Commissioner six years; Justice eight years; and Supervisor eight years; being a member of the present board. Although a Republican, we have never heard of an instance where he has used official power to the detriment of his fellow townsmen. He is held in the highest esteem by all who know him. [1820-1886; buried in Wacousta Cemetery]

Edward Brown, of Bengal, was born in northern part of Ireland in the year 1844, and emigrated to this country with his parents in 1845 and settled in New Jersey where they remained until 1850, when they removed to Michigan and settled in Oakland Co., and in 1852 removed to this county and settled in the township of Bengal where they have resided without interruption ever since. Edward, who is the fourth oldest of six boys, has taught the schools in Bengal, Bingham, and Riley; has held the office of School Inspector for three years; Town Clerk two years; Town Treasurer two years; Supervisor four years. He is now 34 years of age and was but 21 when he held his first office, that of School Inspector. Of late years he has engaged quite extensively in the purchase and sale of real estate-mostly farming lands in this countythrough which he has been enabled to add largely to his earthly possessions. He parents are still living in Bengal and around whom are comfortably situated on good farms, their whole family.

#### [1844-1924; buried in Mt. Rest Cemetery]

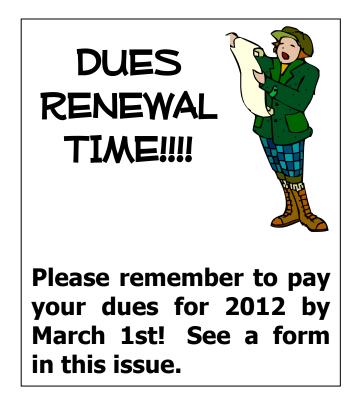
Isaac M. Dryer, of Bath, was born in Cazenovia, Madison Co., NY, and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of July, 1833, and came to Michigan with his parents in 1836 arriving in Detroit on the first day of Nov. and from there moved to and settled in White Oak Twp., Ingham Co., where he remained with his parents until the fall of 1849 when they all removed to Bath in this county in February 1850. In the spring of 1852 his father purchased and deeded to him the west half of the southeast quarter of section 20 on which, in the fall of 1856 (being, as most of the old settlers will recollect, the "smoky season") commenced the erection of a log house when he found it impossible to follow the chalk lines upon the logs he was hewing for the same, was obliged to suspend operations for a few days until the atmosphere became clearer. The house was finally completed and on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1857, he was married to a daughter of Mr. Henry Moon, an old and influential resident of DeWitt Twp., and went to keeping house in this modern edifice in this county in those days, where they continued to live until the winter of 1875 when they moved into their new and elegant house which was destroyed by fire on the first day of the present month, Jan. 1, 1879. This house cost \$2,000 and was insured in the Watertown of NY for \$1,400 and the adjuster allowed his claim at \$1,200. During his residence in Bath he has held some township office ever since he has been a voter. In the spring of 1873 he was, for the first time, elected to the office of Supervisor by a handsome majority over his Republican opponent who was a strong man in his party. He was reelected every year to this office until 1877 when he was defeated by only one majority. In the spring of 1878 he was again elected to this office which is tangible evidence that he has always served the people of his ownership well and faithfully in this important position. His farm now consists 175 acres of well-improved and profitable land, and he has a happy and estimable family composed of a faithful wife, four sons and four daughters, all of whom have the best wishes of the Independent office for a long and successful life.

Levi W. Baldwin, of Dallas, was born in Jamestown, Chautauqua Co., NY, March 29, 1836, from whence his parents removed to Niagara Co., NY, when he was but four years old and where he received a common school education

and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner at which he worked until the spring of 1865 when he removed to Michigan and settled in Bengal, in this county, and purchased a farm opposite that of Mr. Harrison Sutton where he remained until the spring of 1868 when he removed to Dallas and settled upon a farm a little south of the village of Fowler, where he continued to reside until Mr. J. F. Shraft was first elected to the office of Register of Deeds, when he moved into the village and purchased the hardware stock and occupied the store of Mr. Shraft during his official term and is still engaged in the business under the firm name of Baldwin & Gary. He has held the office of Highway Commissioner for three years, was first elected Supervisor in 1870 and has been reelected every year since that time and has had the honor of being Chairman of the Board for three years, being in 1873-4-6. Mr. Baldwin has always enjoyed the reputation among his associate members as being a gentleman, well disposed, liberal in his political and social views; considerate, yet a clear and ready thinker, arriving at conclusions which usually resulted profitable and advantageously to his constituents. [1836-1922: buried in Oak Ridge Cemeterv]

**Jacob E. Ludwick**, of Lebanon, was born in Genesee Co., NY, in 1835, and moved from there to Jackson Co., MI, in 1844 where he remained for five years when he removed to Kalamazoo Co. and remained until 1868 when he removed to Lebanon in this county where he has had a continuous residence ever since and where he has been chosen by his townsmen to serve them as a member of the School Board for two terms; also, as Supervisor for three years, the duties of which he has performed with honor to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. He has 130 acres of land in Lebanon and Dallas Twps. besides other parcels located elsewhere. He is a wide-awake and valuable citizen.

[1834-1907, buried in East Plains Cemetery]



## **EARLY SETTLER**

In January 2009 **Robert A. and Arianna I. VanDeusen** received Early Settler Certificates by proving their lineage from **Ralph Henry VanDeusen** who came to Duplain Twp. from Ohio in 1855.

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	LINEAGE CHART
	Start the first generation with you, the recipient of the chart
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ł	Born <u>3</u> JAN. 1926 <u>at ovid</u> , <u>Michigan</u> Married to <u>Lillian Loyella Hanson</u> Who is child uf <u>GJENN MERLE VAN BEUSEN E LILA BELLE</u> WALTE On <u>IO DEC</u> 1955 <u>at</u> <u>OWOSSO MICHIGAN</u> Died <u>Living</u> <u>at</u> <u>OWOSSO MICHIGAN</u> Burred <u>occupation CARPENTER</u> Millian service <u>US NAVY</u> <u>other spouses</u> <u>MARY ELAINE BOERNER</u>
	Berandparent GLENN MERLE VAN DEUSEN Born 25 JAN 1902 at ELSIE, MICHIGAN Married to LILA BELLE WALTER O Child of ANDREW MERRICK VAN BEUSEN & MINNIE EDITH WEBB
	On 29 SEPT 1923 at ELSIE, MICHIGAN Died 24 FEB 1993 at OWOSSO, MICHIGAN
	Burried FAIR FIELD CEM, CARLAND OCCUPATION MOTEL MANAGER Military service NONE other spouses ORA LUCILLE MONROE
	Born 30 JULY 1847 at HINCKLEY, OHIO Married to MINNIE EDITH WEBBCD Child of RAUPH HENRY VAN DEUSEN& MARVETTE MARGARET ROCKWEL On 22 NOV 1896 at ELSIE, MICHIGAN Died 12 FEB 1920 at ELSIE, MICHIGAN Buried Riverside (EM. ELSIE, michigan) occupation FARMER Military service Civil WAR other spouses HATTIE E. GIFFORD ( Military Service Civil WAR Other spouses HATTIE E. GIFFORD ( 29+H REG. COMPANYE
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#### **TUCKER'S SCRAPBOOK**

Scrapbook donated by Lynne (Laurence) Gregory

The archives holds a scrapbook which was kept by **Josephine** (**Pearce**) **Tucker** (1877-1962). Many of the undated clippings found there were written by **Charity L.** (**VanDyke**) **Pearce** (1848-1919) who was a prolific contributor of local obituaries and events to the newspaper. Some selections follow:

arris Party: Last Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1891, about eighty friends and neighbors met at the residence of **Hector [R.] Harris** [1816-1899] to celebrate his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, and also the 65<sup>th</sup> birthday of his wife [Virtue D. (Crane) 1825-1900], and almost their golden wedding as that comes in June. It was truly a happy gathering-so many old neighbors and schoolmates that had not met before for years, and they improved the time visiting and talking over the past. One noticeable feature of the occasion was the number of large ladies present. There were twelve at the party that could average 175 pounds apiece or united weights would exceed a ton. Choice refreshments in great abundance was served to all after which Mrs. Pearce, in behalf of the company, presented Mr. and Mrs. Harris with two large rockers and an extension table and three dollars in money. Their son, of Saginaw, gave his mother a black satin dress and his father a fine pair of shoes. Their granddaughter sent them a dollar from Almont, Lapeer Co., and they received several other presents from their other children, such as tablecloths and towels. Mr. Harris's people have resided in Clinton Co. many years.

South Olive [ca 1902]: Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Mahar contemplate moving to St. Johns soon. Their friends wished to bid them adieu before they left so repaired to their home sixty strong last Thursday and had another genuine surprise, but Mr. and Mrs. Mahar did not despair or faint but put forth every effort to make everybody feel at home and have a good time and I think they succeeded too if one can judge ought by the smiling faces around them. It was the same old story over again as far as refreshments were concerned. Everybody had all they could eat and to spare. Pumpkin pies in abundance. Jerome Dills, in behalf of the company presented Mrs. Mahar with a handsome rocker. After planning another surprise in the near future, all departed for their homes feeling well paid for going through the mud.

Mr. and Mrs. Mahar were both born in Tiperary County, Ireland. They were married in 1827, in September, and three days after they started for America. After a voyage of 32 days they arrived in New York City. They lived there two years; then moved to Clyde, NY. While there the Civil War began. Mr. Mahar was drafted but hired a substitute.

In 1865 he came to Olive, Clinton County, and purchased 50 acres on Sect. 30. There were only five acres cleared. He and his family made quite an improvement on that place, but after living there three years he sold out and bought 40 acres on Sect. 29. This was an entire wilderness. He had to chop and clear a place for his house. They cleared this up and then thinking they needed more land as the boys had all nearly grown up to manhood, they traded farms with **John Hill** on the St. Johns Road on Sect. 29. They have five children living, **Patsy** died when twelve years old and **Robert** their son died three years ago leaving a wife and child.

Often when the children were small it was hard work for them to keep the wolf from the door. A large family and living on new farms tried them to their utmost strength but they toiled on and today have as fine a farm as any in Olive. they have a large, comfortable, frame house and barn, windmill, and all the modern improvements that farmers need. Mr. Mahar has sold his farm to this boys and he and his good wife will soon retire to St. Johns to rest from their labor. They are worthy members of the Catholic Church in St. Johns,. They are kind, obliging neighbors and are respected by all who know them.

Bert Hodges. Last Saturday night the stillness was broken by the firing of guns; then dinner bells rang and buzz saws sent forth their melodious notes; then an occasional yell. Pretty soon it sounded as if pandemonium had let loose. It became apparent that the newly wedded couple, Mr. and Mrs. Burt Hodges, were being serenaded. The cigars were passed in due form and silence once more reigned.

eWitt Milling Company is a prominent enterprise that is an important factor in supplying the necessities of life. The company was organized in 1891 and includes Willis McLouth of DeWitt and James M. Turner of Lansing. The mill is located on Prairie Creek near its junction with the Looking Glass River and is run part of the year by water power and part of the time by steam. Last spring the dam, like hundreds of others in the country, was broken and will soon be replaced by a new one. Meantime, the old stone process, good in its day but behind the times, was superseded by the roller process which began work in July and is of the thirty-barrels capacity and is proving inadequate to the work needed as the demand for their Silver Leaf brand of flour exceeds the supply. The grain passes from the bin to a Monitor Dustless Separator and is passed through a Cranson Scourer and a Eureka Scourer, all from silver Creek, NY; three sets of double rolls made at Enterprise Kansas; and a Gortons Purifier from Warsaw, IN. Buckwheat is passed through a Cranson Roller Buckwheat Shucker and finished by the stone process. The firm also makes graham flour and bolted corn meal of excellent quality. The mill is in charge of Homer Brazee and most of the work is done on the exchange plan on the basis of 36 pounds of flour and 10 pounds of offal per bushel of good wheat.



Commencement Exercises St. Johns High School



## RODNEY B. WILSON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 18, 1931

Class of 1931

Arieita Belle Armstong Marie C. Barrett Dorothy Jane Beck Alberta Hamilton Beck Alberta Hamilton Berlin Cie Grace Disell Esther Iteme Bond Charles Donald Brained Harles Donald Brained Harles Donald Brained Harles Donald Brained Frederick P. Bunday, Jr. Marie Hamilton Bullard Frederick P. Bunday, Jr. Marie Hames Com Francis P. Bunday, Jr. Marie Hanne Carves Francis F. Bunday, Jr. Marie Henry Cottigen Tederick Devices Com Marie Henry Cottigen Marguerite Deenso Marguerite Deenso Kath Caretta Devices Kuth Carett

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#### **RECENT ACQUISITIONS**

- → Clinton Co. Farm Plat Book, ca 1961
- → Victor Twp. Assessment Roll 1872; photocopy
- $\rightarrow$  Grove School, Dist. #1, Victor Twp., student lists 1907-1961
- → Victor Country Club membership lists 1932-1945
- → Reed Cem. Assn. History; photocopy
- → CNBC Titans TV show on Leo Burnett; 2011; CD
- → Remembering Pearl Harbor; WWII Veterans' Open House, PGS Museum; 25 Sep 2011; CD
- → Marriage Notices from Steuben Co., NY, Newspapers 1797-1884; Jackson, 1988
- → Death Notices from Steuben Co., NY, Newspapers 1797-1884; Jackson, 1988
- $\rightarrow$  Index to Gen. Periodicals; Jacobus ; 1995
- $\rightarrow$  Topical Index to Nat. Gen. Soc. Quarterly; Vol. 1-50; 1986
- $\rightarrow$  Gen. Handbook for New England Research; Lindberg; 1993;
- → State Census Records; Lainhart; 1992
- → New England Historic Gen. Soc. Circulating Library Catalogs, Vols. 1 & 2, 2002
- → New England Historic Gen. Register; Subject Index Vols. 51-142; 1989
- → Martin Family of America, Desc. of John & Esther (Roberts) Martin;
- Mohler; 1983 → Martin Family History, Seaver, 1971
- $\rightarrow$  Martin Family of Ohio, Desc. of Peter Martin, Books I & II; Mohler; 1978
- $\rightarrow$  Martin Tahliy of Ohio, Desc. of Teter Martin, Doors T& II, Mc
- → How to Publish & Market Your Family History; Boyer
- → Evidence , Citation & Analysis for the Family Historian; Mills; 1997
- $\rightarrow$  Photos:

Round School, Lebanon Dist. #6 Sage School, Dallas, Dist. #6 F

## EARLY SETTLER & EARLY FAMILY CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Since January of 2006 the Genealogists of the Clinton Co. Historical Society have awarded 111 certificates to descendants of Clinton County's early residents, those who were here at least before 1900. Kevin Price received a certificate in April 2011 by proving his lineage from Early Settler, Joseph Shaw who came to Greenbush Township between 1850 & 1860. The form apply for this recognition can to be downloaded at <u>www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS</u> where there also is a complete list of certificate recipients.

**Clinton County Trails** 

## **GEORGE M. ANDERSON GAR POST No. 58**

Document discovered at the Archives of Michigan and submitted by L. Ray Lake

Headquarters Charles T. Foster Post No. 42 Rush J. Shank, Commander Department of Michigan, G. A. R. Lansing, Mich. June 11, 1882

H. H. Holton, Asst. Adjt General, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Comrade,

On receipt of special order instructing me to proceed to Dewitt for the purpose of mustering in a post to be known as George M. Anderson Post No. 58 G.A.R. Dept. of Mich., I made due preparation and on the eve of April 15, I met the applicants for said post in Dewitt.

The business of the evening was opened by the presentation of the names of charter members, a list of which I herewith give:

- 1. N. J. Stewart
- 2. E. H. Bedell
- 3. Marion Case
- 4. Nathaniel Black
- 5. Jacob Geisenhafer
- 6. Charles W. Walker
- 7. Jerome Heath
- 8. James Hath

- 9. Theodore Stinehart
- 10. Edward Hewitt
- 11. Albert Lott
- 12. W. W. Shay
- 13. Albert Blood
- 14. Phineas R. Freeman
- 15. Milo Hewitt

The above named comrades were mustered & instructed in accordance with the prescribed rules of our order; after which the officers were elected as follows:

P. C. Norman J. StewartS.V.C Marion CaseJ.V.C Albert LottAdjt. Chas. W. WalkerQ.M. James HathSurgeon Edward Hewitt

Chap. Jerome HeathO.D. Edward BedellO.G. William ShayS.M. Milo HewittQ.M.S. Theodore Steinhart

I then installed them in order of their respective positions and closed the meeting in due form.

All of which I respectfully submit in F[raternity], C[harity] & L[oyalty].

Rush J. Frank

## SURNAMES OF RESEARCH 2011

Christine Miller, PHD; 420 Dornet #237, Lansing, MI 48917;drchrisamiller@gmail.com; Evans, Reeve, Potter Marcy A. DeLaere; 1727 Killarney Dr, Holt, MI 48842; maranndel@sbcglobal.net; Wyman, Lewis, Beadle, Boyle, DeLaere
Jenalea Dieter; 9988 DeWitt Rd., DeWitt, MI 48820; JenaleaDieter@peoplepc.com; Rohrer, Dieter, Blizzard, Teed, Durfee
L. Ray Lake; 2081 Fox Hollow, Okemos, MI 48864; rlake88@sbcglobal.net; Norris, Holsinger, Armstrong, Civil War Veterans
Margaret M. Hillaker; 1206 Glastonbury Dr., St. Johns, MI 48879; jcrra6@aol.com; John W. Keeney 1850-1910; Stella V. Bullard 1866-1960
Joyce Laird; P.O. Box 461, Mason, MI 48854; jclaird839@yahoo.com;Smith, Keeney, Frost, Reed, Hebauf Diane Stanuszek; 324 Jay St., St. Charles, MI 48655; Moss, Randolph, Pinkney, Stebbins, Tripp

The **Archives of the Clinton County Historical Society** is located at 16101 Brook Road in Dewitt Township 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. Phone: (517) 482-5117. Web page: <u>dewittlibrary.org/CCHS</u>

The **Historical Society** meetings are held monthly in Firstbank community room, located downtown St. Johns, on the first Monday at 1:00 pm Nov. through March and at 7:00 p.m. Apr. through Oct.

The **Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum** complex is located on the west side of the courthouse square in St. Johns. <u>www.pgsmuseum.com</u>. To join the Friends of the Museum, contact them at: <u>pgs.museum@hotmail.com</u>; or PGS Museum, P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Mr./Mrs/Miss	List 5 Names you are Researching:
Address:	
City: State: Zip	
Phone: New Renewal	
E-Mail Address:	
Date:	

Annual Dues to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15.00 single and \$20.00 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.





If you are receiving your newsletter by email and would rather have it surface-mailed to you, please let us know by writing to us at Genealogists of CCHS, Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879, or calling the Archives at 517-472-5117 Ext: 2.



Clinton County Historical Soc. P.O. Box 174 St. Johns, MI 48879