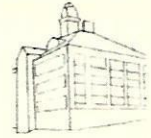




CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS



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JOLLY EXCURSION

To Lansing Over New Railroad to Visit Sugar Factory NO FACTORY NEXT YEAR

Prof. P.G. Towar Will be Here Next Week Saturday to Make Best Contracts

A delegation of 110 farmers and business men were given a complimentary trip to Lansing and return Monday by the Lansing & Northern Railway, President **John E. Mills** and Superintendent **Quick** putting themselves to considerable trouble and expense to provide cars. The company has no coaches at present and had to use a box car and two flats covered with canvas, seats being provided for the middle and along the sides. They were a little airy and the heating appliances were not all that could have been hoped for but the best attainable, and the ventilation was first class.

It had been announced that the train would leave the head of Wight Street at "about" 8 o'clock, but it was about 11 and the crowd got good and chilly standing around there gazing expectantly at the south for the smoke of the locomotive. At last they were off, and no railroad ever took out a jollier lot of men. It was discovered on the trip that the new road is practically all fenced from Lansing to St. Johns. The trolley poles are within about three miles of here and large numbers of men are putting the finishing touches on the ballasting along the line. There is still much to be done in places, but the roadbed is in much better shape than any one expected to find it, the southern end being first class.

At DeWitt a halt was made, and photographer, Plunkett, caught the train as she was taking the high bridge over the Looking Glass like an air ship. He also took a view of the train on Wight Street before it started.

The train occupied about an hour and a quarter going to Lansing, stops being made at the gravel pit to leave cars and at the sink hole, DeWitt, and other places. Carriages were waiting at Lansing, and **Mr. Fred Norris** was also there to welcome the visitors. All went to the Downie House [Hotel Downey, SW corner Washington & Kalamazoo Sts.] for dinner, and then to the sugar factory, where Capt. Boutell showed them through the mammoth plant that cost about \$700,000. It would be a waste of time to attempt to describe the thousand and one details of making sugar from beets in a modern factory, but it is an interesting place to visit and a very busy one.

The St. Johns crowd expected that the captain would make a definite proposition regarding the building of a factory in St. Johns, but he was not prepared to do so and said we could not get a factory ready for next season anyhow. He said that if we could demonstrate that we had a good water supply so that a factory could get no less than five million gallons per day and could get contracts for 8,000 acres of beets, there would be no trouble about capital putting in a factory.

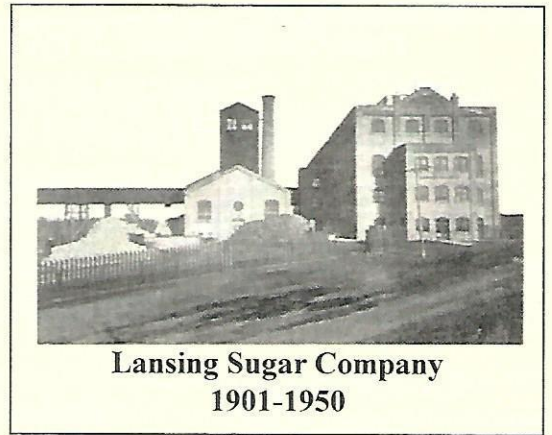
Michigan farmers have received a little over \$5 per ton for their beets at the Lansing factory this year. The company contracted several thousand acres in Canada at \$3 per ton, with duty and freight costing about \$5 at the factory. He suggested that we get contracts for next year's crop, and that they would buy them to the extent of 500 acres if contracts are signed on or before a week from next Saturday, when Mr. **Perry G. Towar**, agriculturalist for the Lansing factory, will come to St. Johns and meet the farmers interested. In the meantime contracts can be obtained and signed by calling on Prosecuting Attorney **Wm. M. Smith**, at the court house.

In the contracts the company agrees to furnish seed at 15 cents per pound; farmer to sow 15 pounds per acres; deliveries to be made one quarter of crop not later than Oct. 15, Nov.15, Dec.15, and Jan. 15, respectively; beets must be properly topped and delivered free from stones and dirt; title of crop under contract remains in company. Beets testing 12 per cent will be paid for at \$4.50 per ton, 33 1/3 cents per ton being added or deducted for every one per cent more or less than 12 per cent. Company unloads car lots free but shipper pays freight.

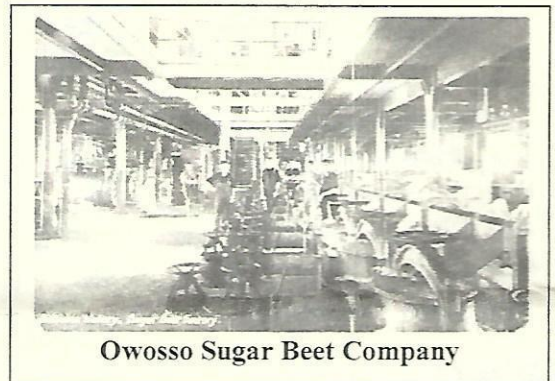
Mr. Boutell also suggested that a juice factory could be established here as it has been in other places, and the juice of the beets shipped or piped to Lansing. This would give the farmers the same for raising the beets as it would if a factory were established here. It would also start the business and a factory could be secured later. Another important question is the disposition of the sewage from the factory. All these points would have to be settled.

The Republican believes the only way to promote this and other enterprises is to form a business men's association, and to at this matter in a systematic manner. In Owosso the council appropriated to pay for soliciting acreage and other expenses. Here it would seem very desirable if the council would put the big well now being dug down to a depth sufficient to secure a free and inexhaustible supply of water, if it can be secured, and that will settle one very important question regarding our future growth, besides furnishing what we have needed for years, a more abundant supply for ordinary use.

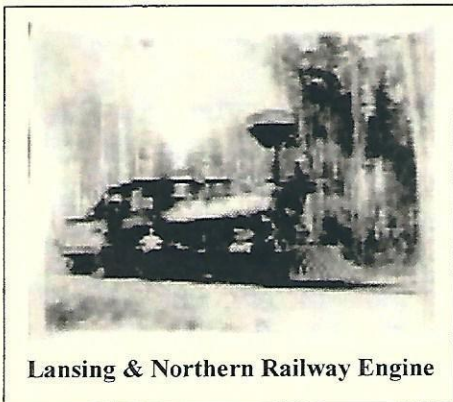
The return trip from Lansing was made in about 45 minutes. The company of **Messrs. Mills and Quick** and the trainmen is greatly appreciated by all who went. It is hoped the final touches will soon be finished and regular service established to the capital city. A new sound was raised to the Downie House just before we left for home when a black man came in and called "All aboard for the Lansing and Northern Train for St. Johns." *The Clinton Republican*; 28 Nov 1901



Lansing Sugar Company
1901-1950



Owosso Sugar Beet Company



JOSEPH & HARRIET DIANTHA FAYRWEATHER ASSOCIATION

The Archives holds two books of secretary's records of the **Joseph & Harriet Diantha Fayrweather Assoc.** They were donated from the estate of **Bessie Miller**. These books cover the years 1921 – 1966 and contain minutes of the annual meetings, notes on births and deaths, and several lists of members and mailing addresses. Surnames mentioned include:

Anderson	Cox	Harper	Rice
Barber	Dimon	Helms	Schlarf
Barnaby	Fayrweather	Miller	Scott
Bennett	Flansburg	Mills	Smith
Campbell	Fleming	Murningham	Toman
Clifford	Foerch	Osborne	Underwood
Coomer	Greenhoe	Parr	Weeks
Crisler	Kalfsbeek	Randall	Winsor
		Reardon	Young

Following are some excerpts from the records:

Aug. 30, 1921 - The first annual reunion of the descendants of **Joseph and Harriet Diantha Fayrweather** was held at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. [Bessie] Peter R. Miller** in Greenbush Township [Clinton Co, MI] on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 1921. Motion was made and supported that **Alfred Winsor** act as genealogist.

Aug 19, 1922 – The second annual reunion ...was held at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. John Rice** in Maple Rapids...At noon the guests were assembled around tables loaded with all things fit for a king and ask Aunt Lide if she doesn't remember our laugh about "chicken necks." If there is any other edible dish than was brot to that pot-luck dinner we don't care to know about it.

Aug. 18, 1923 – A most bountiful dinner was served to fifty nine. Ask Ella and Carrie about the number of pies they counted and how it took a whole table to hold just pies.

Aug. 15, 1925 – The names of **Max Murningham** and **Frank Helms** were added to our roll.

Aug. 20, 1932 – At noon a bountiful dinner was served. The groaning table did not show any signs of the depression which one heard as the main topic of conversation. ... An invitation was given by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Miller for the reunion to meet at their home next year. Someone suggested that they plant their watermelons early next year.... The following program was given: *Old John Brown*, sung in rounds. *Tommy's Prayer*, read by **Gladys Murningham**. *Heap O' Livin*, read by Bessie Miller. *I Like the Depression*, read by **J. D. Smith**. *Hans VanSmash*, a play acted by **Esther Flansburg, Bertha Winsor, Bernice Anderson, Letha Smith, Jennie Clifford, Ada Rice, and Madge Smith**.

1943 – The 23rd annual reunion...was held at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Milson Randall**. ...Report from our foreign correspondent, **Mildred Miller**, was very interesting. She reported that Christmas card followed **Merle Comer** about 15,000 miles. ...Milson Randall gave a very interesting talk about his experiences and about farming in New Guinea.

Aug. 13, 1944 - ...Oldest member present was Mrs. **Minnie Fayrweather**, 81 years, and youngest—**Bonnie Lou Comer**, 3 years.

1950 – The 30th annual reunion ... was held at the Bridgeville Hall with **Mr. and Mrs. Vere Mills** as host and hostess. **Adelaide Weeks** gave a very interesting talk on their trip out west. J. D. Smith gave a humorous account of his stay at the St. Johns hospital.

July 26, 1953 – The 33rd annual reuntion ... was at Fulton Center Hall, Gratiot Co....The oldest member present was Mrs. Minnie Fayrweather, age 90 yrs., and the youngest was the 5-months old baby of **Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kidder**.

July 1966 – The 46th annual reunion ... was held at the home of **Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Fayrweather**. Due to illness there was only about 20 relatives present.

GRULER FAMILY

Boyne Falls, June 5, 1990

Dear Dennis:

I'm so glad you could pick up a few pieces of the family history in Germany. I spent many hours at the Gruler home in Fowler, although my home was in DeWitt, about 25 miles southeast of Fowler.

My grandmother was **Anna (Gruler) Whittaker**, and I spent as much time in Fowler as I could. I was born on June 15, 1914, in DeWitt, but my earliest memories were playing with Grandma Whittaker's baby chicks--I lacked a month of being 6 when she died--and gathering eggs and getting pecked by the chickens. I also recall using her outside privy. There were no inside toilets in those days and no paved roads. Gravel roads were the best--only the very main ones in my early years.

The best walks were wooden slats thru which people sometimes lost a penny or two, and if you had sharp eyes, a quid of gum, and a long stick to put the gum on, you could fish the penny out and spend it at the candy counter. Of course, my brother's, Frank's, eyes were always best and most of our "penny fishing" was done in DeWitt.

Back to Fowler: You could walk a block east from Grandma Whittaker's to the Gruler's. In my time it was where the three old maid great aunts and great uncle Ernest, lived. Great-Grandfather **Constantine [Gruler]** died in 1909 before I was born. His home passed to the heirs who lived there and to each one left until the last, Aunt Fanny, when the estate minus the home, went to the remaining heirs. The home was deeded to Aunt **Olga (Whittaker) McIntosh** and she sold it to **Cyrus and Nina Waldron**, The last I knew Nina was still living there and could probably give you more information than I. She was also the Gruler's great niece, a granddaughter to Aunt and Uncle Pfeil. She also did much research and work on the last Fowler History. Your Uncle Al Gruler has a copy.

When Constantin (signed Konstantin on license) married Caroline on July 4, 1857, both lived in Bengal, Clinton Co. The marriage was witnessed by **Dr. Friederich Fischer** and sister, **Romane Schemer** (as written on license); ceremony by **Ansel Chapman**, Justice of Peace. He dropped the German spelling substituting "C" for "K."

Aunt **Emma Gruler** told me they were related to General Custer and gave me a picture of him and when I saw her (Philip's wife's) maiden name, **Mary Kustor**, on the tombstone I knew that had to be the connection.

She also told me they were becalmed many days on the way over and it was the butter, etc., they packed to bring that helped them avoid scurvy. I didn't pay attention at the time, but she must have heard the story from her mother. I think Grandpa Gruler was too busy to tell many stories. She never mentioned the ones that died or the one left in Europe although Aunt **Romane Schemer** had many letters from Germany which **Irene (Schemer) Gillett** probably destroyed or took with her when she moved to Grand Rapids. Both Dr. Ernest Schemer, Irene's father, and Romane (Gruler) Schemer lived with her until their death.

Grandpa Gruler sent to Ill. for plans for the first elevator in Fowler. At the time he walked from Fowler to DeWitt carrying the sack of wheat on his shoulder when he forded Stoney Creek. It was mostly wilderness in those days. Dexter Trail, south of Stoney Creek, was the main road from Detroit to Grand Rapids at the time. It was a corduroy road and he worked on repairs at times. He had to be a remarkable man, teaching himself English, writing both languages, and along with everything else he was very interested in politics. A determined man (or bull-headed German) he had quite a public fight (including letters published in the county paper) with the priest because he refused to let his small children walk 5 miles to the Catholic school when the country school was only ¼ miles away. He quit the church, joined the Masons, and said he'd take his chances in the hereafter. That is why his family were not raised Catholics. He attended the World's Fair in Chicago in '88, I think, and made many trips to Detroit to buy stock for the store.

He didn't think any man was good enough for his daughters, but Aunt Rosa, Aunt Louise, and my grandmother got married anyway. However, Aunt Amelia, Aunt Emma, and Aunt Fannie lived their lives with their brother, Ernest, in the Fowler homestead.

I would guess that he used the same plans for the Petoskey business as he used in Fowler. Great Uncle Frank (your great-grandfather) moved to Petoskey after Al and Frank had graduated because the climate was better for your grandfather, Frank "Dude", who was troubled with hay fever.

Adah (McLoughlin) Gruler, your great grandmother, and Aunt Fannie were tomboys together and the story I remember Aunt Fannie telling me was about falling off the wooden fence into the manure pile in the livery stable lot behind Gruler's store. They were attempting to walk the wood rail to which the upright boards were nailed.

Uncle Ernest was wonderful with animals. His Boston bulldog did all kinds of tricks. There was also a crow that pulled out clothespins when you tried to hang clothes on the line. He had a coon in the back yard and it would sit up, roll over, and hunt for food that he hid in different pockets. I think that's why he ended up in the poultry business. His stories about Old John Sugar house, Maple Syrup Creek, and Xmas Tree Forest were spellbinding. I'm sorry you couldn't have enjoyed visiting Fowler.

I hope you can read what I have written. My arthritis keeps my fingers from going where I want them to.

Copied at Oak Ridge Cemetery, north of Stoney Creek, southeast of Fowler, MI:

Albert, son of Fred & Rom'n Schemer: Died Dec 28, 1869 10 yrs 3 m 1 day

Emilie, daughter of Fred & Rom'n Schemer: Died Mar. 2, 1868 3 yrs 7m 2 days

Dr. Friederick Fischer, (stepfather of Fred. Schemer & Caroline G.): Died Sept. 16, 1838 57 yrs 8 ds

Parents of Konstantin, Romane, & Louisa -

Phillip Gruler: Died May 8, 1858—53 yrs 8 ds

Anna Marie: Died Aug. 8, 1887 79 yrs 10 mo 2 ds

Sincerely, Donna

Note:

- Orrin/Orin spelled both ways in these articles.
- Luvina/Lovina spelled both ways in these articles. Her gravestone says "Luvina."
- "Grissom" is the correct spelling for the GAR Post name.

ORRIN EDGAR WILSON: The Life of an African-American Civil War Veteran By Jesse Lasorda

In late December 1928, two of St. Johns' most beloved citizens—Orrin Edgar Wilson and his wife Luvina-- passed away within only two days of each other. The funeral wound its way past the couple's home at 303 South Clinton Avenue, a short distance from the county courthouse, and the streets were lined with community residents. Flags were flown at half-mast throughout the city of St. Johns, and the Wilsons were buried in the veterans' section at Mt. Rest Cemetery.

Orrin had served during the U.S. Civil War in Michigan's all-black regiment, the 102nd United States Colored Infantry (formally, the 1st MI Colored Infantry) Company K. He was just 16 years old when he enlisted in Kalamazoo August 25, 1864. Orrin served until the war's end, mustering out of the Army September 30, 1865, while in Charleston, South Carolina. Despite suffering from health conditions brought on during the war (i.e., chronic diarrhea and kidney disease), Orrin's post-war life was one of good fortune.

In 1871, Orrin married Lovina Cummings in Bushnell (Montcalm County), the bride's hometown. The newlyweds made their home in the St. Johns area where they would stay for the next 60 years and serve as respected members of the community. In 1875, Lovina joined St. Johns Methodist Church, and Orrin followed suit in 1894. He would serve as a church trustee and treasurer for more than 30 years.

While Orrin applied for pension in 1890, he also took up the trade of barbering, operating his own barbershop for 50 years. Among the shops he owned was the first barbershop operated at the old Steel Hotel in downtown St. Johns. (A number of African Americans owned and operated Michigan barbershops, where the clientele was predominantly white. After World War I, this practice seems to have stopped.)

What was most unusual about the Wilsons was their place in time. While a small number of Michigan's African Americans were members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), most belonged to the John Brown Post #184 in Detroit or the Matthew Artis Post #341 in Calvin Center, near Cassopolis. Orrin, however, was a charter member of the St. Johns Charles E. Grissom [sic Grisson] Post #156. Not only was he the post's only African-American member, but he served as its post commander in 1893. It's likely that he was the only person of color to hold such a position in the state—with the exception of the Artis and Brown posts.

Like her husband, Lovina was a trailblazer in her own right. A member of the Women's Relief Corps (WRC) Charles E. Grissom Camp #20, she was likely the only African-American woman to serve as the president of an all-white WRC camp when she led the organization in 1905.

Together, [the] couple had two sons: George, born December 5, 1872, and Orrin Arthur, born February 1, 1881. Both men also practiced the trade of barbering. Orrin Arthur began his career very young, and had mastered the trade by 15. He would operate his own St. Johns barbershop for 63 years. (Orrin Arthur also played on one of St. Johns' earliest high school football teams. Despite being listed in the yearbook index as the starting quarterback for the St. Johns team during his sophomore and junior years, he was never pictured with the team.

The couple's eldest son, George, also barbered in St. Johns for a number of years. He also joined the St. Johns post office on September 2, 1902, as one of the three original mail carriers when city delivery was established. He served more than 26 years as a postal carrier, and per newspaper accounts, walked 114,000 miles during his tenure.

George passed away January 16, 1929, more than 35 years before the death of his younger brother. His cause of death was listed as pneumonia, believed to be brought on by influenza which was the same flu that caused the deaths of his parents three weeks earlier. As evidenced by the high attendance at their funeral, the Wilson family left a prominent mark on the St. Johns community.

HSM Chronicle [Historical Society of Michigan]

JOINED IN LIFE AND IN DEATH

End Comes for Mr. and Mrs. Orin [sic] E. Wilson of St. Johns

Were Active in G.A.R., W.R.C., and M.E. Church: Rites Monday and Wednesday

Clinton Co. Republican-News; 3 Jan 1929; p1 c1

United in life as man and wife for -?- [58] years Mr. and Mrs. Orin E. Wilson, well known and highly respected St. Johns couple were separated finally by death, but only a few brief hours elapsed before they were again re-united in that land beyond the grave. Mr. Wilson, weakened by old age, succumbed at his home, 303 South Clinton Avenue, Saturday, December 28, 1928, in his 81st year of life. Less than 48 hours later, Mrs. Wilson, aged 77, passed away on December 31, the day of her husband's funeral.

The passing of Mr. Wilson marks another vacancy in the last thin line of St. Johns Civil War veterans. As a boy in his teens, Mr. Wilson joined the Union Army and marched away to help fight for the liberty of his own people. When the local G.A.R. post was formed, he became a charter member and as he worked for the interest of the post, so also his wife worked with the Women's Relief Corps. Another St. Johns organization, the Methodist church, saw Mr. and Mrs. Wilson serving side by side. They were both active members and for years Mr. Wilson voted as a church officer.

Nearly all of their married life was spent in St. Johns. By trade Mr. Wilson was a barber and he conducted his own shop here for a long period. It was only during the last five years that he finally gave up working.

Flags were half-masted on Clinton Avenue during the funeral service for the aged couple. A detachment of Legionnaires fired the last salute and sounded the final taps over Mr. Wilson's grave while nearby, with gray heads bared, stood three of his old comrades in arms.

Orin E. Wilson was born in Oshtemo Twp. , Kalamazoo County, Michigan, February 17, 1848, and resided there on a farm with his parents, John and Elizah Wilson, until in August 1864, when as a boy of 16, he enlisted in Co. K. 102nd Michigan Infantry of the Union Army. He served with the colors until September 1865 when he was honorably discharged.

He was united in marriage to Lovina Cummings of Bushnell, Montcalm County, Michigan, in 1871. Soon afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Wilson came to St. Johns which has since been their home.

He was a charter member of the Charles E. Grisson G.A.R. post of St. Johns and was always an active member. He served as Post Commander and filled most of the other offices during his long membership. He took great interest in the post and his comrades.

At the time of his death, he was and had been a member of the St. Johns Methodist Church for more than 30 years. He was actively interested in church work and served as a member of the board of trustees and also as church treasurer for a number of years.

He is survived by two sons, George G. and Arthur O. Wilson of St. Johns, his few remaining G.A.R. comrades and a host of friends. Funeral services were conducted Monday by Rev. Ray W. Merrill at the Osgood Funeral Home and burial was made at Mr. Rest.

Mrs. Lovina [sic] Wilson was born in Hocking County, Ohio, in 1851, the only daughter of John and Mary Cummings. When about 9 years old she came to Michigan with her parents and settled in Montcalm County.

After her marriage and removal to St. Johns, Mrs. Wilson became a member of the Methodist Church here and continued her membership until her death. She was a past president of the Woman's Relief Corps and was an active member for years until failing health restrained her.

Besides her two sons, she is survived by three brothers, William, Daniel, and Wesley Cummings of Bushnel, Michigan.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Osgood Funeral Home. Rev. Ray W. Merrill officiated and burial was made in Mr. Rest Cemetery.

ing attorney. course. (Return to page 3, column 6, please)

SKATING AT THE OLD BRICK YARD



Sunday was a beautiful, crisp day, and about a dozen youngsters were skating at the old brickyard pond northeast of St. Johns on the Sullivan farm. Other dozens skated at the 4-H building rink at the city park. The kids have had more than 30 good skating days this winter.



Don't
FORGET!

DUES RENEWAL TIME

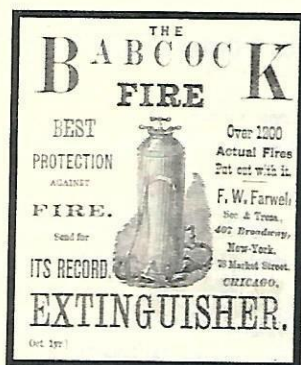
Annual Dues to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15.00 single and \$20.00 a couple/family. Membership is based on the calendar year and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, *Clinton County Trails*. Checks should be made payable to the Clinton County Historical Society and mailed to P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879.

NEWZ FROM EARLY PAPERS

Courtesy of archives staff & other discerning researchers.

VERY UNGENTLEMANLY The Behavior of the Babcock's on the Hose Carts

The members of the fire department whose duty it is to stand on **Rich. Gay's** dray on the way to fires and get soaked by the "automatic" fire extinguishers, have sworn vengeance on the soda fountain attachments and don't propose to submit to the very ungentlemanly behavior which the handsome nickel plated things assume every time they are taken out for an airing. A false alarm of first last Friday morning caused a repetition of the scene presented on the way to the Bartlett fire a few weeks ago. The Babcock seemed to "have it in" particularly for **Edward Krepps** who was around looking for a wringer through which he might run himself after he had taken a little drive around the block as a complementary from **R. Gay Esp.** A locomotive whistle caused all the trouble, being mistaken for the water works alarm. The glass balls in the extinguishers break altogether too easily as he jarring of the carts set them off as soon as they reach the street. SJN 1 Apr 1896



Babcock Fire Extinguisher



MARKED IMPROVEMENT

ANTI-SPITTING ORDINANCE MAKES FOR CLEANER STREETS.

The proposition relative to an anti-spitting ordinance which appeared in *THE NEWS* a few weeks ago has attracted considerable attention and considerable favorable comment from various papers around the state. This week *THE NEWS* is in receipt of a letter from L. D. Gibbs, of the *Springfield Republican*, in which he writes that such an ordinance is in existence in Springfield and notices reading as follows are posted in all the public places in the city:

"The Board of Health hereby adjudges that the deposit of sputum in public places is a nuisance, source of filth, and cause of sickness, and hereby makes and publishes the following regulations: That spitting upon the floor, platform steps or stairs of any public building, hall, church, theatre, or market or upon any sidewalk or pathway of any street park or square, be and hereby is prohibited. Whosoever violates this regulation shall forfeit a sum not exceeding \$100."

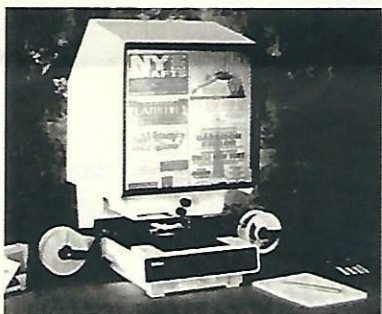
Regarding the effect of this regulation Mr. Gibbs write:

"Before it was passed our principal sidewalks and the corridors of public buildings were something disgusting to walk upon or in. There was a marked improvement as soon as the ordinance was passed and now as the ordinance is rigidly enforced by all police officers, the streets are in a fine condition. We have a similar ordinance against spitting in street cars, but that won't interest St. Johns for a year or two. There is also another ordinance against scattering bills over people's lawns and piazzas and in the streets. One never sees papers flying in the streets as a source of fright to horses."

SJN 7 Nov 1901

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- *Simplex Guide of the City of Lansing ...*; w/map; 1961
- Bissell family obituary collection
- *Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*; Rose & Ingalls; 1997
- *DAR Library Catalog*, Vol. 3; 1985-1991
- St. Johns Redwings, 100 Years of Football
- Masonic Lodge #105, St. Johns, roster; ca 1858-2008
- Corinthian Lodge #241, St. Johns, account book 1873-1884
- PHOTOGRAPHS:
Boichot Concrete Business (5)
St. Johns Fire 20 May 1941-D & C Store; Allison Opera House, etc. (3)
Nellie (Spencer) Greene
Glenda Lee, Roscoe G., & Isabel A. (Sisson) Smith



ARCHIVES NEEDS NEW MICROFILM READER-PRINTER

The Archives is in dire need of a microfilm reader-printer. Our present machine, which was donated by Gerald & Shirley Benedict, has served us well since 2002 but is now disintegrating. Replacement parts are no longer available for it. The sales of our 2012 publication, *Clinton County, Michigan, A History told through Postcards*, have helped us towards the **approximately \$6000** cost of the microfilm-scanning unit we propose purchasing. Your donation in any amount towards this purchase would be greatly appreciated.

Please designate donations to "film scanner fund" and mail to Clinton Co. Historical Society, Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879

PUBLICATIONS OF THE CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

- ❖ *Past and Present of Clinton County, Michigan*; by Judge S. B. Daboll; 1906; reprint 1987; 572 pp; index. \$40 + \$5 postage = \$45
- ❖ *Oak Ridge Cemetery*, Bengal Twp., Clinton Co., MI; 2001; headstone readings, ownership records, & stone repairs; apx. 50 pp; comb binding. \$15 + \$2 postage = \$17
- ❖ *Union Home Cemetery*; Greenbush Twp., survey done May 2001; 44 pp; unbound. \$10 + \$2 postage = \$12.
- ❖ *Wacousta Cemetery*, Watertown Twp., Clinton Co., MI; 2002; gravestone readings in both alphabetical and lot order; ca 200 pp; comb binding. \$30 + \$5 postage = \$35
- ❖ *Records of the Rev. Guilford S. Northrup*; baptisms, weddings, and funerals in central Michigan ca 1880-1920; 1981; 55 pp.; stapled binding; indexed. \$5 + \$1 postage = \$6
- ❖ *United States Civil War Soldiers Living in Michigan in 1894*; 1988; 288 pp. \$25 + \$5 postage = \$30
- ❖ 1840 Federal Census, Clinton County, Michigan; 1988; stapled binding; 7 pp. \$5 + \$1 postage = \$6
- ❖ 1864 Plat Map of Clinton County, Michigan; indexed; apx. 50 pp.; unbound. \$5 + \$3 postage = \$8
- ❖ 1940 Rural Directory of Clinton County, Michigan; reprint 2000; 44 pp.; stapled binding. \$7.50 + \$2 postage = \$9.50
- ❖ *Clinton County, Michigan; A history told through postcards*; 2012; 116 pp; "Perfect Bound"; paperback; Apx. 250 postcards; some pages in color. \$20 + \$3 postage = \$23
- ❖ *Clinton County Trails*; quarterly newsletter; subscription included with annual dues. \$15 single. \$20 family. Back issues available for \$1 ea. incl postage.
- ❖ *Clinton County Trails*; quarterly newsletter; Vols. 1-15, 1986-2000; high resolution scans of newsletters with index in computer CD format; requires browser & Adobe Reader. \$25 + \$3 postage.
- ❖ Clinton Co. School Census 1902-1925; Vol. 1, Bath, Bengal & Bingham Twps. 2006, CD. \$15 + \$3 postage = \$18.
- ❖ Clinton Co. School Census 1902-1925; Vol. 2, Dallas & DeWitt Twps. 2006, CD. \$15 + \$3 postage = \$18
- ❖ Clinton Co. School Census 1902-1925; Vol. 3, Duplain Twp. 2006, CD. \$15 + \$3 postage = \$18
- ❖ Clinton Co. Pioneer Society Records 1873-1935; 2006; CD; 482 pp of records, essays & reports. \$25 + \$3 postage = \$28.

Please make check payable to: Clinton Co. Historical Society
Mail to : CCHS, P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879

Recent seminars..

- Sep 28, in conjunction with the LDS Church in St Johns, the Clinton County Historical Society was asked to make a presentation on the Clinton County family history resources. Myrna VanEpps, Archivist gave information on the resources available at the CCHS archives. Lynne Gregory gave information on the many various resources available at the county courthouse and elsewhere in the county.
- Follow ups found there was a real need for a basic course in how to do family history, thus Nov 2, again with the cooperation of the LDS Church, there was another all morning seminar featuring "Getting Started" on basic family history research. Lynne Gregory presented the program for the Clinton County Historical Society.

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In the late 19th century the following was submitted to an Ohio newspaper for publication. "Mr W. S. Williams of Illinois announces that his wife, Ann Eliza, having left his bed and board without cause, he will not be responsible for her debts she may contract." Then, in a moment of poetic inspiration, he wrote

"Ann Eliza, Ann Eliza,
Once I loved but now despise her,
And so I no longer prize her,
I will go and advertise her,
For although I'm not a miser,
I won't pay for what she buys her."

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 Thursday. Phone: (517) 482-5117. E-mail: ccgensoc@yahoo.com
Web page: dewittlibrary.org/CCHS. CCHS members have free usage of the Archives, non-member cost: \$5.00 fee per day.

The **Historical Society** meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 1:00 pm Nov. through March and at 7:00 p.m. Apr. through Oct. at the First United Methodist Church on State Street, at the northeast corner of the courthouse in St. Johns, with entry through the south backdoors. Regular meetings are not held in June & December.

The **Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum** complex is located on the west side of the courthouse square in St. Johns. www.pgsmuseum.com. To join the Friends of the Museum, contact them at: pgs.museum@hotmail.com; 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: _____

Send me Clinton County Trails by e-mail _____ yes _____ no

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.



RECORD SHOWS G. EMMONS BOUGHT WOODS FROM U.S. OTHER PART OF CITY PARK SIXTY PURCHASED IN 1845

While going through the records preparatory to making out the abstract for the purchase of the Emmons' farm, by the city, Register of Deeds, **M. R. VanDeusen** found some interesting facts.

The woods portion of the farm is part of a tract of 80 acres which the late **George W. Emmons**, purchased from the United States government, half in 1849 and half in 1850. In 1845, he had already purchased the 80 acres adjoining it on the east from **George Rogers**, who took the land from the government in 1837. This 160 acres formed the northeast quarter of section 17 of Bingham. In 1863, he added to this 60 acres adjoining the western eighty at the south, purchased from **Joshua Gaité**. At different times portions of the property were sold, so that at the present time only 20 acres of the last named sixty belongs to the estate. This with about 22 acres out of the government eighty and approximately 18 acres out of the eighty purchased from Rogers, goes into the tract to become the city park. SJN 23 Nov. 1916, p1c2