

GENERATIONS



The Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society

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In keeping with the Sojourner Truth 200th Anniversary Celebration, the Calhoun County Genealogical Society is proud to present Dorothy and Michael Martich. They will speak on the life of Sojourner Truth, a freed slave who lived in Battle Creek, MI and became a national leader of emancipation and women's rights. Dorothy and Michael Martich have researched Sojourner Truth's life for ten years and are responsible for the Martich Black History Collection housed at Willard Library in Battle Creek.

"I sell the Shadow to Support the Substance."

-----Sojourner Truth



- **"Sojourner Truth"**
- **Tuesday, April 22, 1997, 7:00 p.m.**
- **VFW Hall, 800 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall, MI**
- **Featuring historians Dorothy and Michael Martich**

Sojourner Truth, who was born Isabella Baumfree in Ulster County, New York, made Battle Creek her home for 27 years. She died on 26 November 1883 and is buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, 255 South Avenue in Battle Creek. Truth was a friend to many Quakers who resided in early Battle Creek including Henry Willis, Charles Merritt and Richard and Frances Titus. Although it no longer exists, her house stood at 10 College Street.

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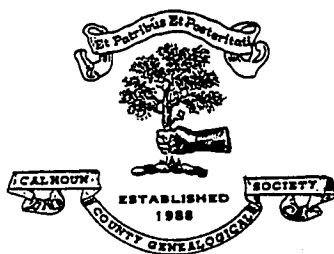
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The Calhoun County Genealogical Society is a non-profit, federally tax-exempt, State-Chartered organization. Individuals, libraries or societies may apply for membership. Annual dues for the 1996/1997 year beginning September 1 are \$10.00. Starting the 1997/1998 membership year annual dues will be \$12.00. All members receive the bi-monthly newsletter Generations.

Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday of every month at the VFW Hall located at 800 E. Michigan Ave., Marshall, MI. unless otherwise specified. Programs are free and the public is invited.

Research Materials Available from the Calhoun County Genealogical Society

Clarence Township Cemeteries in Calhoun Co., MI
(Clarence Center, Dyer, Hunt, Krenerick and Nichols)
(66 pages, over 2,100 names) \$7.00

Transcriptions of Cemeteries of Convis Twp.,
Calhoun Co., MI (35 pages, over 1,000 names)
\$6.00

Every Name Index for Generations, the Newsletter of
the Calhoun County Genealogical Society, August
1988 - June 1995 (48 pages, over 2,800 names)
\$5.00

Beginner's Guide to Family History Research by
Desmond Walls Allen and Carolyn Earle Billingsley
(46 pages) \$9.00

Bentley Corners Cemetery Clarendon Twp., Calhoun
Co., MI (14 pages) \$6.00

Marriage Records of Calhoun Co., MI 1836-1890
(248 pages, indexed) \$18.50

St. Joseph Cemetery Clarendon Twp., Calhoun Co.,
MI (25 pages) \$6.00

Transcriptions of Small Cemeteries in Clarence Twp.,
Calhoun Co., MI (24 pages) \$6.00

Transcriptions of the Gravestones in the Rice Creek
Cemetery Lee Twp., Calhoun Co., MI (49 pages)
\$6.00

MI residents must add 6% sales tax. All prices include shipping. To order the above publications please send a check payable to:

Calhoun County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 777
Marshall, MI 49068



Volunteers Needed

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the cemetery project. People are needed to help transcribe stones, verify records and proofread. Anyone interested in helping please contact Ruth Kaiser, Cemetery Project Chairperson at 517-857-2747. Ruth is a snowbird in Florida during the Michigan winters so if you cannot get a hold of her please keep trying!

EARLY BATTLE CREEK

The following are excerpts from Battle Creek's Centennial 1859-1959 by **Ross H. Collier**. Mr. Collier, a Battle Creek, MI native, worked as a newsman for 50 years, including 20 years with the Battle Creek Enquirer and News.

Elected as Battle Creek's first mayor was **Elijah Willis Pendill**, temperance man, dairyman and a Republican. Mr Pendill was then 47 and had been resident here since 1855. He was re-elected in 1860 and 1861 and again named mayor in 1864. For a while, the Pendills lived at West Michigan avenue and Cass street. Later he bought 40 acres between Bidwell street and Territorial road, known as the Richards farm. It was in his home on the edge of Goguac Prairie that he died at 75 on Dec. 19, 1875. (page 9)

The year 1835 marked a turning point.....In Battle Creek, **Sands McCamly** dug the ditch which became the mill race. Also in 1835, **William H. Coleman**, a brother-in-law of **Sands McCamly**, and **David H. Daniels**, the first merchants, arrived here, along with **Capt. John Marvin**, the first blacksmith; **David Stillson**, **John S. VanBrunt**, **A.P. Rawson**, **John Meachem**, **Cephas A. Smith**, **John Champion**, and **Ogden Green**, for whom Green street was named. (page 26)

The **Rev. Robert Adams**, our first Baptist minister, arrived on June 7, 1835. (page 26)

The year of 1836, in which the village was platted, brought many who were destined to make lasting contributions to the city. They included **Samuel W.** and **Gilbert W. McCamly**, nephews of **Sands McCamly**; **Alonzo Noble**, **Almon Whitcomb**; **Joseph**, **Abraham** and **Isaac Merritt**; **Jonathon Hart**, **Leonard Starkweather**, **Edward Packer**, **Theron Chadwick** and **Erastus Hussey**. (page 26)



NEW ARRIVALS AT THE ALBION PUBLIC LIBRARY LOCAL HISTORY ROOM

Population of States and Counties of the United States: 1790 - 1990, U.S. Department Of Commerce, Washington, D.C., 1996.

Morbus - Why & How Our Ancestors Died: A Genealogist's Dictionary of Terms, Rosemary A. Chorzempa, Polish Genealogical Society of America, Chicago, IL 1991.

Bidwell Family History, 1587 - 1982, v. 1, Joan J. Bidwell, Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, 1984.

Bridging the Gap with Reflections from Burkesville, KY to Albion, MI, Walking in Papa Cheek's Footsteps, Frank Morris Simmons, Ray Printers, Jackson, MI 1996.

Every Name Index for Generations, the Newsletter of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society, August 1988 - June 1995, Sandy Redmond, Calhoun County Genealogical Society, 1996.

Dressed for the Photographer, Ordinary Americans & Fashion, 1840 - 1900, Joan Severa, The Kent State University Press, Kent, OH, 1995.

Seasons for Growning, the Diaries of Lizzie A. Dravenstatt, 1870 - 1928, ed, Patricia Sanford Brown, 1996.

Additionally, the family surname files starting with A through F from the Albion Historical Society have been transferred, inventoried and incorporated into the Local History Room files. Over 200 of these files contain at least one, or often several, family photographs. These files make for very interesting reading. We are searching for volunteers to help inventory these files. You can volunteer as little or as much time as you wish, plus you get to read all the files! Some of the letters give fascinating insights into life at the turn of the century and during World War I. The Albion Public Library Local History Room is open 12pm to 5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 12pm to 6pm on Wednesdays. We are located at 501 S. Superior Street in Albion, MI (517) 629-3993.

QUERIES

Send your query to:

CCGS

P.O. Box 777

Marshall, MI 49068

RILEY - SHERMAN - BOELING - BERGER

I have encountered some stumbling blocks while working on my genealogy. David RILEY and Mary CROSS married on 5 August, 1857 in East Leroy, Calhoun Co., MI. I have copied the church record from a film I ordered from our local LDS library. Do you know if there are civil records in the county or town where I might find more information about the bride and groom? I do not know the names of either of their parents.

David and Mary had a son, Willis Patrick RILEY born February 1862 in East Leroy. Can I get the exact date of his birth or get a birth certificate? I am also looking if there might be other siblings and their names. According to the 1860 East Leroy census there is a David RILEY, age 20 born in Ohio and wife Mary age 18 also born in Ohio, as well as three children ages 5, 2 and 1. My Willis would have been 2.

By 1870 they do not seem to be in the same area although there are other RILEYs. I know nothing more except for Willis' marriage certificate. At age 26 he states that his residence is Sherman, Wexford Co., MI and he is a lumberman. He is marrying Laura Jane SHERMAN. The marriage took place in Machias, Cattaraugus Co., NY. 12 November 1888. I do not know where the two met or if Jennie or the SHERMANs were ever in East Leroy.

As I write this I think I should be checking the 1880 MI Soundex to see if Willis might be in Wexford Co. (and/or the rest of the family). I searched for Wexford Co. at one point through our LDS and I could not come up with any records. Does anyone know anything about Wexford County? Does anyone have an address that I could write to regarding their records?

Jennie died in 1901 while they were living in Cleveland, OH. Willis remarried Ella BOELING (nee BERGER) in Ohio in March 1902. She is the daughter of Henry BERGER and Margaret HAGER and was born c. 1869 in Detroit, MI. Did they return to MI? Did they have any children? My grandfather, Guy Sherman RILEY was put into Father Baker's Boys' Home here in Buffalo NY and his two brothers were put into the Cleveland Children's Home and later adopted. One brother was found but there still is a missing brother, Clinton RILEY that no one has ever been able to locate. Willis was unable to care for the boys and left them in Cleveland. I am looking for help and any suggestions anyone may have. I am stuck with this family and do not seem to be able to get anywhere!

Barbara A. Oliver
73 Tillotson Avenue
Cheektowaga, NY 14225-4545



BANKS - STEWART - STUART - COTTLE MAYHEW - SMITH

I have information from "The History of Martha's Vineyard, Dukes County, MA in Three Volumes, Volume III, Family Genealogies" by Charles Edward BANKS, M.D. that an ancestor of mine died in Battle Creek, MI. I am looking for any confirmation and/or information on the John STEWART/STUART family of that area.

John STEWART/STUART was born 16 August 1755 in Chilmark, Dukes Co., MA and died September 1839 in Battle Creek, Calhoun Co., MI. His parents were William STEWART and Ruhama MAYHEW. His occupation was a Mariner. He married Lydia COTTLE 24 December 1772. Her parents were Benjamin COTTLE and Sarah SMITH. There were 10 children born of this union including Nathan STEWART, Benjamin STEWART and Rebeckah STEWART. Are any descendants still in the Battle Creek area? It is possible that John went there to live with a child.

Louise Mendenhall Hutchinson
1661 Oak Lane
Quakertown, PA 18951-1915

QUERIES

RUTHRUFF - RUTHRAUFF - RUDRAUFF - RIGGS

I found the address of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society while in the Chesapeake Public Library Genealogy section. I am currently researching my family name (RUTHRUFF, RUTHRAUFF, RUDRAUFF) and am seeking information from your area. My grandfather, Claude RUTHRUFF, was born and raised in Homer, MI where he married Florence RIGGS. My father Levi was born in Homer on 4 October 1904. The family moved to Battle Creek, MI where I was born.

The reason for this letter is to solicit help in obtaining records of my father's birth, his father's birth and that of my great grandfather George W. RUTHRUFF (born 1864 and died 1909). I was hoping someone could assist me in obtaining names and addresses of sources throughout Calhoun County.

Lee Ruthruff
1201 Mill Stream Way
Chesapeake, VA 23320
757-548-0161
LeeRuthruff@worldnet.att.net

SHALLENBERG - SHELLENBERG - SHELLENBERGER - MURRAY - MELVIN

I am researching my great aunt Margaret MURRAY SHALLENBERG/SHELLENBERG or SHELLENBERGER. She was born in Marshall, MI in 1854. She married Jacob SHALLENBERG in Catholic Rectory December 1870. Her parents were Martin Matthew MURRAY and Mary Ann MELVIN. No one in the family ever heard of Margaret from her sister, my grandmother. We found her name in the MI 1860 Census.

Several years I had contact with a very nice lady in Calhoun County, MI who sent me much material. Neither she nor I could ever find anything out about Margaret's death. I feel she died sometime prior to 1890. Margaret is listed,

along with her husband Jacob, in the Jackson, MI Census 1880. He and his brother Daniel were listed as railroad engineers.

I would like to know when, where and how she died. Where is she buried? Did she leave any survivors other than her husband? What railroad went through Marshall? Are there any school records of that era? I believe the family lived on or near Kalamazoo Street.

Margaret had three younger sisters: Catherine Cecilia, Ellen Jane and Maria. The family she married into had a rather large family. Perhaps there are some descendants of the family still living in Marshall. Margaret's husband was of the Lutheran faith. Any assistance you could give me would be greatly appreciated.

Jane Rhyne
P.O. Box 424
El Dorado, KS 67042-0424

TERRY

I am interested in information regarding Elmore G. TERRY who was in the Athens area about 1850. He was preaching to the Indians. His wife was Armilla. I would like to hear from anyone who is researching the TERRY surname.

Mrs. Rose Fields
RS.R. #3, Box 79
Condordia, MO 64020

FISHER - SMITH - PETTIT

Seeking ancestors and descendants for Cornelius FISHER, early settler of Homer Township (FISHER's Corners) and his wife Rachel, last name unknown. Early settler, with six sons: Phillip, Mathias, John, Benjamin, Enoch and Joseph from Mifflinville, Columbia Township, PA. Also interested in Samuel H. SMITH and wife Hannah PETTIT from same area. Hanna was sister-in-law to Benjamin FISHER.

Doris L. Littebrant
201 Steward Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201

QUERIES

Henry Dupler Wyman married Margaret Anna Newton-Moore in 1885. In 1890 and 1900 they lived in Dayton Ohio where son Thomas Benjamin Harry Wyman was born in 1892. Margaret lived with a William Moore for several years and had three sons named Wilson, Joseph and John. She had a half brother named Alfred Taylor. Henry died in 1912 in Albion, MI. Henry was born in Huntington, IN, I believe. Any information would be appreciated.

I am researching some of my ancestors that lived and died in Calhoun County, MI. Their names are George B. DE NOYELLES, died 20 February 1902 in Burlington, his wife's name was Jane E., Marshall T. DE NOYELLES, son of George B., who died 23 March 1911 in Battle Creek, his wife's name was Emma J. Marshall was a Civil War Veteran. I have been to Burlington for a few hours and could not find any graves for DE NOYELLES. Can anyone help me? I would be glad to do any research for any of your members here in Western New York since many settlers traveled through this area on their way to Michigan. Thank you.

CCGS MEMBERS ENTITLED TO A DISCOUNT ON FGS FORUM

Forum contains a complete Calendar of Events with a typical issue showing as many as 50 different seminars and lectures being held throughout the United States. The State Reporting column reports on the many activities of various genealogical societies. The Record Access column describes the status of accessibility of information by state. Other regular columns appear for family associations, ethnic/international, book reviews and new briefs. The Society Spotlight column highlights the significant work of genealogical societies.

To subscribe send \$11 to FGS *Forum*, P.O. Box 830220, Richardson, TX 75083-0220. Be sure to mention you are a member of the Calhoun County Genealogical Society in order to qualify for this discounted rate.



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The township as originally formed included not only its present territory, but that of Eckford, Albion, and Clarendon. Subsequent to the formation of Calhoun County, and prior to 1834, Homer formed part of Marshall, and as such received its pioneer population. The name Homer was given at the request of James HOPKINS, and others originally from Homer, Cortland County, New York.

In the spring of 1832 two brothers, Henry and Richard McMURTRIE, and Powell GROVER, single men, came from Pennsylvania, and traversing this region, camped on the plains northeast of the present Homer, where they entered land, built log houses and inaugurated the settlement of the township. William WINTERTEEN came hither the same year, and, having chosen and entered land, went to Pennsylvania for his family. He returned in 1833, driving his own team and stock. Traversing Ohio by way of Adrian, Jonesville, and Litchfield, he camped at night by the roadside.

In 1834 the FISHER settlement was formed by Cornelius FISHER and his six sons, Philip, Matthias, John, Benjamin, Enoch and Joseph. The same year dates the settlement in the FISHER neighborhood of Christian MENCH, his son Philip, John KERNS and sons, Jeremiah and Aaron, and James McGREGOR. Abram KEHL came out in 1835, and thenceforward the lands rapidly found individual ownership. Cook's Plains were settled in May, 1832, by Henry COOK, of Cayuga County, New York, and Anthony DOOLITTLE, formerly of the same State, but later of Ohio. COOK purchased of Hastings land entered by Dr. HAYS, of Marshall, and now located in the township of Eckford. The price paid by the settler was one dollar and eighty-seven and one-half cents per acre. The land settled by DOOLITTLE is located in Clarendon.

Some time in 1832, Milton BARNEY, from Lyons, New York, entered a large part of the land, including the village site and the water-power of the Homer mills. Early in September, Mr. BARNEY and family came through, following the St. Joseph trail leading to Chicago. He first purchased quarter-section at the crossing of the south branch of the Kalamazoo, where, camping on the river-bank, he constructed a log house, near the present site of the Homer mills. In 1833 he built a saw-mill, and also laid out the plat of a village, which was called Barneysville.

There came out with Mr. BARNEY several mechanics to build mills, and necessary material had been brought along, including mill-irons. Timothy HAMLIN, of Clarendon, Henry STANCHELL, Richard NORRIS, and McGUIRE, were of these mechanics who preferred the couch of an Indian wigwam to the open air on the first night after arrival. Almost contemporary with the arrival of this party, Robert McCULLY settled about a mile northwest of the present village. BARNEY occupied his log house nearly two years, boarded his workmen, and kept a house of entertainment for the public. A small frame building was built, a miscellaneous stock of goods laid in, and in this, the first framed house in Homer, the pioneer store was kept. The village site was well chosen, and occupants soon gathered in. There were Frederick R. HATCH, Samuel W. HAMILTON, James PARSONS, Chauncey C. LEWIS, Arba LAMBSON, and Stephen S. POWERS. In 1834 John BURT bought a large tract of land near the village, and the LEACHES, Timothy and Elihu, located three miles to the southeast. A fresh arrival took place in 1835. Their enumeration supplies the names of Nelson DORSEY, Nathan ESLOW, Isaiah ESLOW, Elisha THORNTON, Dr. BENNER, Moses and Israel SHAW, Abram LETTS, Willet HOPKINS, John BALLENTINE, Jesse CHAMPION and David WOODWARD.

In 1836 Joseph GIBBS, Andrew DORSEY, John M. B. WETHERWAX, Dr. George W. BLAIR, Elery P. POTTER, and Rufus HILL moved into the township. A. DORSEY was magistrate for years, and represented the county in the State legislature during 1837-38. He commenced running a stage in 1836, leaving Jonesville and Marshall on successive days.

Among the settlers of 1837 were David BURT, Azra LEWIS and Hiram SMITH, from Clyde, Wayne County, New York, Edward HENDERSON, David L. MAHANY, and Michael MILLER. Messrs. LEWIS and SMITH brought on a large stock of goods, and in June opened a store. In 1838 four brothers, David, John, Huntington and Eleazer JAYNES settled in the southwest of the township, and formed what has since been called the "JAYNES settlement".

Ancestors of ARDIS IRENE DAVISON

THOMAS DAVISON

b: June 16, 1859 in ESSEX, ONT. CANADA
m: November 13, 1882 in ST JOHNS, MI
d: January 23, 1932 in ALMA, MICHIGAN 2

JAMES WILLIAM DAVISON

b: January 10, 1884 in ST JOHNS, MICHIGAN
m: March 08, 1911 in GRATIOT Co., MI
d: December 21, 1954 in ALMA, MICHIGAN

ANNA WALDRON

b: September 19, 1862 in NEWBRIDGE, WALES
d: October 19, 1900 in ST JOHNS, MICHIGAN 3

BERNARD JAMES DAVISON

b: September 05, 1912 in SUMNER, MICHIGAN
m: April 11, 1937 in ALMA, MICHIGAN

HARVEY M. SHEPARD

b: 1862 in GRATIOT COUNTY, MICHIGAN
m: May 26, 1885 in ELM HALL, MICHIGAN
d: November 13, 1927 in ALMA, MICHIGAN 4

MABLE CLEO SHEPARD

b: October 19, 1885 in SAGINAW, MICHIGAN
d: March 15, 1976 in ALMA, MICHIGAN

MATILDA GRIGGS

b: 1865 in PRINCETON, ONT. CANADA
d: November 13, 1947 in ALMA, MICHIGAN 5

ARDIS IRENE DAVISON

b: September 29, 1938 in ALMA, MICHIGAN
m: November 23, 1957 in ALMA, MICHIGAN

GEORGE CUSHMAN

b: 1842 in CAYUGA COUNTY, NEW YORK
m: 1866 in CALHOUN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
d: 1923 in CALHOUN COUNTY, MICHIGAN 6

ERNEST CUSHMAN

b: 1870 in CALHOUN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
m: June 03, 1910 in BATTLE CREEK, MI
d: November 15, 1923 in ANN ARBOR, MI

MARINDA CORNELIA RHODES

b: June 30, 1850 in MICHIGAN
d: June 30, 1926 in CALHOUN Co., MI 7

GRACE MABLE CUSHMAN

b: March 14, 1917 in MARSHALL, MICHIGAN

JOHN HENRY ASHLEY

b: Abt 1861 in COLUMBIA Co., NY
m: November 30, 1884 in CALHOUN Co., MI
d: 1929 in PONTIAC MICHIGAN 8

FLORENCE L ASHLEY

b: 1892 in CALHOUN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
d: November 23, 1910 in HOMER, MICHIGAN

EMMA STUART

b: Abt 1856 in RENSSELAER Co., NY
d: June 30, 1892 in BATTLE CREEK, MI 9

The following article "School at Athens, Calhoun County - 1847" comes from the report of the 1889 Annual Meeting of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, Vol. 14, pgs. 360-363. The author, Anson De Puy Van Buren, was a member of the Committee of Historians of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society. Born to Ephraim and Olive (Jay) Van Buren 21 April 1822, he came with his family to Battle Creek in 1836. He taught in many early schools around Calhoun County.

This was a large school, and taught in a log schoolhouse at HART'S Corners, in the township of Athens. It was the first schoolhouse erected in the district. The school director was Philander KNAPPEN, son of Rev. Mason KNAPPEN, of Richland, Kalamazoo County. I was informed by Mr. KNAPPEN that the teacher he had employed the previous winter had been turned out of his school by some of its unmanageable boys. This did not frighten me, as I replied: "I have been used to tending a threshing machine, and know how to bring out the wheat." This expression was soon known all over the district, and no doubt had a salutary effect on my school, for a while at least. The schoolhouse was furnished in the old style. Desks against the logs on three sides, seats of rough boards with wooden legs; a large brick chimney with broad flaring jams at the east end of the house. I was to receive eighteen dollars per month. The old text-books had been mostly supplemented by later ones. Hence we formed classes in most of the studies.

It was an interesting school, composed of boys and girls between the ages of six and eighteen, most of them in, or merging into, their "teens." We got along finely for the first and second weeks; but during the third week we began to see indications and actions that reminded us not only of the trouble in the previous winter's school, but that we had the same "unmanageable boys" in our school that caused that trouble. Finally it came to my ears that these boys were going to defy "this teacher who had tended a threshing machine." This threat was soon put into execution, for the ringleaders of the opposition, Horace BROWNELL, Elliot STIMPSON, and Frank KNAPPEN, openly refused to obey me in something they were ordered to do, and where obedience was simply their duty. Here I was held at bay by three unruly pupils, who persistently defied my authority. I was prepared for the emergency; that was, to settle this matter on the spot. Mr. HART and Mr. John ROGERS had been clearing off some swale land, and had presented me with a dozen splendid beech whips. I had wilted them by running them in the hot ashes in the fireplace, and placed them out of sight behind the chimney. I have no desire to go through with a description of the whipping I gave those boys, but will say that it was the severest that I ever gave to a refractory pupil in the schoolroom. The boys were some fourteen or fifteen years old, and wore coats of corduroy, which shielded them considerably from the effect of the blows. Frank KNAPPEN was the last one punished, and the most stubborn and defiant, but finally yielded, and agreed with the rest to obey the rules of the school. This whipping made some stir in the district, but it was effectual; I had no more trouble from unmanageable boys in the school after that. If there was any other way to settle this trouble I did not, or could not, see it then. I can now.

These stout, robust boys grew up to be strong, muscular young men. And when the south fired on Sumter in 1861, and a call came from President Lincoln for soldiers to defend the Union, Frank KNAPPEN and Horace BROWNELL enlisted, "and went to the front." Frank fell bravely fighting for the old flag at Kenesaw Mountain, and Horace BROWNELL was last seen fighting like a hero in a desperate charge on the rebel entrenchments at Gettysburg. As he was never seen after that battle, there is no doubt but what he was among the slain on that great day. Elliot STIMPSON went to California, where he still resides.

This was a large school, numbering from fifty to sixty scholars, and, after "these incorrigibles" were brought to see that their best interest lay in the line of study, we pushed ahead in school work. And, at the close of the winter's school, if we did not formally graduate any in the "three R's," many of the pupils got so near through that they could see out, and readily finish the course themselves. And we aimed to leave all desirous to continue in the pursuit of knowledge.

The spelling school was a source of diversion and improvement to the school and the neighborhood. The school east of us was taught by a Mr. WALKER, in what was called the "WALKER Settlement." With this school we had many a spelling "bout," as also with the one northeast of us, taught by Miss Livinia E. HANSON, now Mrs. L. E. COLE of Galesburg. The Nottawa mission and school, among the Pottawattomies, was some two miles southwest of our schoolhouse. This mission was then in the charge of Rev. Manasseh HICKEY of the M. E. Church. He was assisted by a Mr. CRANE and a young lady, Mr. Hickey's sister. Mr. CRANE and Miss HICKEY had charge of the Indian school. There were then some over one hundred of the Pottawattomie band who owned, lived on and cultivated the section of land purchased for them by their agents, NORTON, HOBART and Thomas ACKERS. They lived in log houses. The mission house was quite a large log structure and used for the large gatherings of the Indians at home and from abroad. The schoolhouse, also built of logs, was used for school on the week day, and for religious meetings on Sunday. My first home was with the director, Philander KNAPPEN. I found among Mr. KNAPPEN'S books, the "History of the Patriot War in Canada" by Edward Alexander Theller, in two volumes. This was a great treat to me, and I read them through as eagerly, and with as deep interest as I ever did Robinson Crusoe, or The Arabian Nights. I never have seen this history since. It is a rare work. The right man wrote the book. Theller was to this history as Capt. Horry was to the life of Gen. Francis Marion. Both were written by men who were thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the times and had been active participants in the stirring scenes of which they wrote.

"Boarding round" was interesting to the teacher in those early days. There was less attraction from the outside world to enlist one's attention, or divert it for the themes of social life; hence the old fireside was the more interesting. I wish I could reproduce some of the talk, or at least some of the more interesting stories as illustrative of the life in Michigan homes forty years ago. Charles Dudley WARNER, in his "Back Log Stories" says that the best talk is that which escapes up the open chimney, and cannot be repeated. We might say that all of our talk, and the stories told, while boarding round in the district, escaped up the open chimney and cannot be repeated, for the lack of a chronicler to note them down.

Lemuel DAVIS was, probably, the oldest man in the entire settlement. The electric telegraph had just come into use, and I had the pleasure of explaining its workings to this genial old gentleman, of a generation now past and gone. He had an idea, at first, that letters were sent from place to place, on the wires. When told that a new alphabet was used, one that represented our letters, he was still more surprised, and thought that we might be getting on a little too fast; that we might yet make a better use of some of the old things instead of trying to invent so many so many new ones. "Yet, let them have this telegraph, it will be a bauble, at least, to please these restless spirits, who can't be satisfied with anything old, and if it proves really useful, we shall be glad of it."

Editors note: Lemuel Davis is my 5th great-grandfather. Gee - given his feelings about the telegraph, I wonder what he would think of the Internet! Sandy

PIONEER CERTIFICATE UPDATE

Congratulations to the following people who have been awarded Pioneer Certificates:

Ann Louise Hubbard Bowerman-Dunkle for *Thomas LARDER*
Rhonda Kay Sudbrink, Aaron James Sudbrink, Byron Timothy Sudbrink, Earl Lavern Smith and
Nova Ann Bowman for *Stephen WARREN*
Loretta M. Pankow and Shelley J. Switzer for *John HUGHES*
Mary Hughes Lockhart, Linda Louise Tidwell, Sherie Hughes Timmons and Penny Ann Powell
for *Francis Marion RATHBUN*
E. Ahlene Carpenter Doubleday for *Calvin Loomis CARPENTER*
Hazel M. Miller for *John W. MILLER*
Larry Stuart Judd, Laurie Ann (Judd) Ressler, Craig Stuart Judd, Christopher Alan Judd, and
Stacey Lynn (Judd) Visockis for *George Albert WRIGHT* and *Joseph JUDD*
Larry Stuart Judd for *Sarah E. CLARK WRIGHT*
Lori Michell Zalar and Deborah Lynn Zalar for *Allen Wesley EMBURY*
Norma Howell, Lois Fuller and William Hammond for *Warham WARNER*
Helen Jean (Van Sickle) Murdock for *Daniel BILLINGHURST*
Verla J. Davis Potts for *Aseryl FLINT, Jr.*



CHAMBERLIN FAMILY BIBLE

The following are transcriptions of two pages found in a 1803 family Bible in the hands of **Monica Hopp, 306 S. Burgess, Homer, MI 49245-1204**. Valerie Radee sent "Generations" copies of these two pages because Monica Hopp wants to give this Bible to a descendent of **Jairus Chamberlin** who owned the Bible. (Editor's Note: included in the bible pages was the cover page of the New Testament section of the Bible. This cover page was dated 1803. Please note that several of the births noted in the Bible pages occurred before 1803.)

Births

Jairus Chamberlin - born 25 Aug 1765
Rhoda Quittenfield - born 13 April 1766, married to
Jairus Chamberlin 24 Dec 1788
Justin Chamberlin - born 22 June 1790
Sophia C - Born 16 July 1792
Rhoda C - born 13 Nov 1796
Lydia C - born 1 June 1798
Clarisa C - born 25 march 1800
Jairus Brown C - born 25 July 1803
Louisa C - born 4 June 1807
Julia C - born 28 July 1809

Deaths

Job Chamberlin, father of **Jairus** died April 1805
age 80 years
His wife **Diadama** died April 1816 aged 81 years
Clarisa, daughter of **Jairus Chamberlin** died 22 March
1824 aged 24 years
Justin died 25 March 1825 aged 35
Lydia died 27 June 1830 aged 33 years
Rhoda, mother of these children, died 17 Nov 1833
aged 68
Jarius, father of the same died 7 March 1837 aged 72
Louisa died 17 March 1841 aged 34 years

Births

Justin Chamberlin - born 22 June 1790 married 24
February 1820 to **Mary Collins** who was born 30
March 1801
Erastus Quittenfield Chamberlin - born 22 February 1821
Ruth Sophia - born 25 Aug 1822
Jairus Justin - born 27 June 1824
Justin the father of these children died 25 March 1825
aged 35 years
Jairus Brown Chamberlin born 25 July 1803 married to
Mary Chamberlin 9 April 1827
Mary Ann born 10 March 1828
Charles Franklin born 1 Aug 1830
Abigail Rhoda born 19 Feb 1833
Ellen Louisa born 29 Sept 1835
Sarah Juliette born 17 May 1840
Lorifsan? Adalaide born 1 Oct 1843

Deaths

Mary, the mother of these children, died 20 Jan 1864