

4-3-1924

Chautauq Co Reg.

BRAZEE

# Dewitt and Vi

## DEWITT WOMAN PASSED AWAY

At Home of Son, Homer Bra-  
zee, March 31. Burial at  
Adrian

(By Abbie E. Dills)

Dewitt — Maria, daughter of Beers and Hannah McConnel was born near Adrian, August 26, 1841. She was united in marriage to Henry Brazee of Adrian. They settled at Hastings, Barry county, where most of their married life was spent. To this union eight children were born, two sons and six daughters. After her husband's death which occurred in 1899 for 11 years she kept up the home, until her children went into homes of their own. For the past fourteen years Mrs. Brazee has lived with her children. For the past few years her winters have been spent with her son, Homer Brazee of this place, at whose home she passed away Monday evening, March 31, after an illness of two months from heart trouble, aged 82 years. Three daughters, Bertha, Maude and a young babe preceded her in death, leaving to mourn the death of a kind and loving mother and grandmother, Homer, of Dewitt, Mark of Plymouth, Mich., Mrs. Ida Marsh of Mayville, Mich., Mrs. Emma Miller of Adrian and Mrs. Ella King of Ply-

mouth, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren, besides other relatives and a host of friends

Mrs. Brazee although not affiliated with any church was a Christian in every sense of the word. Her pleasing personality made her many friends who will miss her companionship, especially in Dewitt. A prayer service was held at the home of Homer Brazee on Main street west at 8:00 o'clock Wednesday morning, conducted by the M. E. pastor, Rev. H. R. Strong. The remains in charge of the undertaker, W. D. Brinkerhoff of Lansing were taken to the old home near Adrian, where funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock. Interment was made in Wolf Creek cemetery.

Braze

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

Carrie Braze - June 9, 1868 - January 13, 1951

Vincent Funeral Home      Mon. January 15, 2:00 p.m.  
Rev. C. Harry Moon      DeWitt Cemetery  
Committal Rites, DeWitt Chapter #30, O.E.S.  
Pallbearers: Fred Tucker, Glenn Halterman, Henry  
Richards, Floyd Rosekrans, Bert Taylor, Ralph  
Woodruff.

Homer Braze - June 27, 1866 - November 16, 1950

Vincent Funeral Home- Sun. November 19, 2:00 p.m.  
Rev. C. Harry Moon      DeWitt Cemetery  
Pallbearers: V. D. Pearce, Bert Taylor, Bert Brinkerhoff,  
Vern Walker, Henry A. Richards, Bert Mann.  
Committal Rites, DeWitt F. & A. M. #272

Braze

Obituaries from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

HOMER BRAZEE passed away Thursday eve., Nov. 16, at his home following an extended illness.

He was born in Barry County on June 27, 1866, and was married to Carolyn Bush, June 6, 1892.

.....In early life he was a miller in the Springville Mill in Lenawee county and a mill in DeWitt. Later he operated a general store in DeWitt until retirement.....

CARRIE BRAZEE died Saturday p.m. in Clinton Memorial Hospital, St. Johns, after a long illness. She was born in Albion, June 9, 1868 and was married June 4, 1880 to Homer Braze. Mr. Braze died in November, 1950. She was a life member of the DeWitt O.E.S. No. 3. There are no survivors.

# Times Have Changed

## *Retiring Pastor Recalls 40 Years of Ministry*

By THELMA HARNETT  
Staff Writer

The Rev. LaVern Bretz, who began his career 40 years ago as a lay preacher without a salary, will retire May 31 from the active ministry.

An open house honoring Mr. and Mrs. Bretz will be held from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday in the parlors of Valley Farms Baptist Church, 241 E. State, where he has served two separate pastorates totaling 25 years. The couple also will mark their 47th wedding anniversary Sunday.



*Church Builders — 1939*

The Rev. LaVern Bretz, left, and the late John Wygant, in this picture taken 35 years ago, pause from their construction work on the Valley Farms Baptist Church parsonage and Fellowship Hall. The parsonage was built from materials hauled by the truck from the razed Dansville Baptist Church, and was completed by the congregation at a cost of \$1,500. Mr. Wygant designed the parsonage and directed the construction.

ALL OF Mr. Bretz's ministry has been spent in the southern part of Clinton County, where he served three congregations — reorganizing one of them and founding another.

On his 28th birthday in 1934, he assumed his duties as lay pastor of the Baptist Church, reorganizing the congregation, which had been voted out of existence two years earlier, although he was married and had two children at that time, he received no stated salary, and made his liveli-

hood by working at the Atlas Drop Forge.

"In 1937, I added the Valley Farms Baptist Mission to my ministry at a salary of \$2 a week, serving two congregations for two years, after which I concentrated my ministry at Valley Farms."

THAT CHURCH was organized in January 1938, a parsonage was built and a Sunday School unit was added to the church building which had been moved earlier from E. Michigan Avenue, where it had accommodated the Olivet Baptist congregation.

Mr. Bretz was ordained in 1938 at Valley Farms and in 1943 he added the DeWitt Community Church to his ministry, serving these two together until 1944, when he then devoted full time to the DeWitt church.

Seventeen years ago Mr. Bretz returned to Valley Farms Baptist Church, and four years later he dedicated a complete new building, which he designed and the congregation built.

LOOKING BACK on his ministry, the clergymen recalls that he has officiated at about 800 baptisms, more than 1,500 funerals and more than 1,000 weddings.

"Forty years ago there was a greater feeling of brotherly love in the congregation and neighborhood," he said. "Often times I was invited to the home of a parishioner for Sunday dinner, and at threshing time I would fill in."

Mr. Bretz said the ministry



Rev. LaVern Bretz

today is more specialized because of the pressures on young and old alike. Clergymen, he said, are faced with more mental problems on the part of the community. "Forty years ago the life in the community was more relaxed," he added.

"EVEN THOUGH the community was smaller, the attendance in church was greater in comparison than it is today," the minister went on. He contributed the slack in attendance today to the average family's economic resources, and the out-of-town trips they are able to make.

"Years ago, even the attendance at funerals was much greater than today, because people took the time to share in sorrow," he said.

Emphasizing that his ministry is a community-type thrust, Mr. Bretz said that, although he is retiring from the pastorate, he will continue to serve where he is needed.

Bretz

Brewer

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

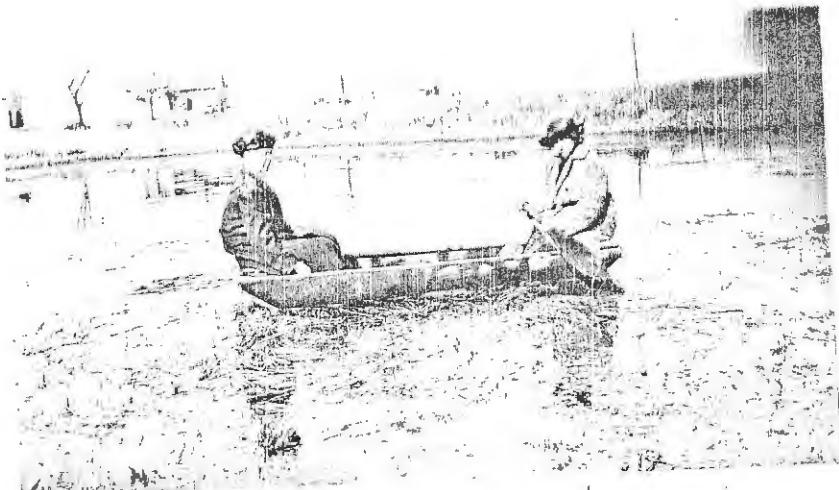
BENJAMIN C. BREWER- March 14, 1859 - April 9, 1951

Ebert-Hoag Chapel April 12, 1951  
Rev. Harry Moon & Rev. Harry Brewer  
South Bingham Cemetery

Briggs



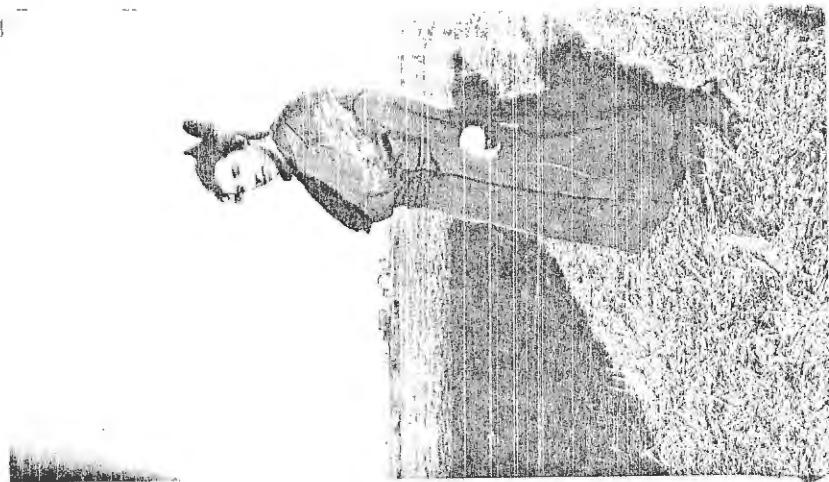
Briggs Farm - house belonging to VAN Briggs



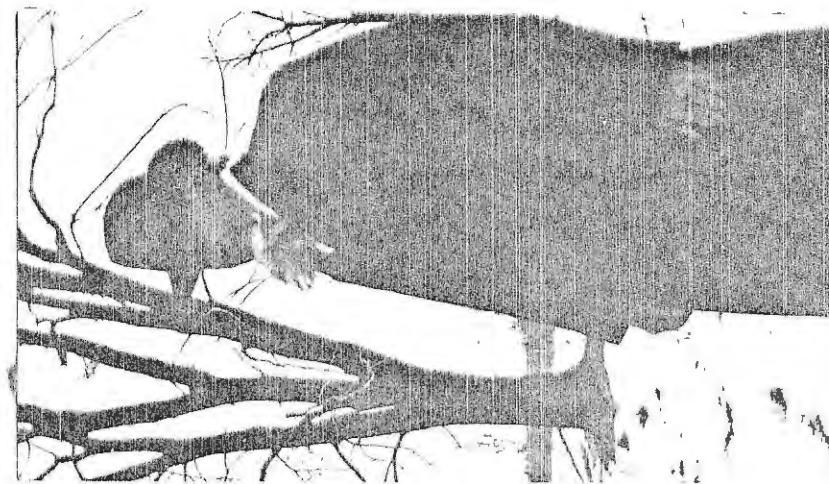
Mrs. Briggs And Emma on pond behind  
Briggs + Severance farms.

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
FILE  
FOX

Briggs



Emma Briggs



Luther Briggs

LOCAL HISTORY  
COLLECTION  
FILE  
BOX

# Lifestyle

323-1711

## Long-ago veterans had local ties

There were many veterans of the War of 1812 who came to the DeWitt area in the early years of its settlement. Some stayed briefly before moving on, others remained and eventually died here. Several became prominent settlers while others lived out an obscure life; their former military service unrecorded.

Unlike veterans of all later wars (with the exception of the war with Mexico, 1846-48) veterans of the War of 1812 formed no local organizations. As a result, much of the information of these men's military past has been forgotten. Likewise, even many of the names have been lost.

The following are some veterans of this war who have a recorded association with early DeWitt.

Perhaps the most notable veteran of early DeWitt was its founder, Capt. David Scott. He was born in Litchfield, Conn., Nov. 1, 1779, and was reportedly a captain in the 23rd U.S. Infantry. He married Eunice Forbes of Shoreham, Vt., in 1801. They settled at DeWitt in 1833 and it was here that he died, May 7, 1851. He and his wife are buried in the DeWitt cemetery.

Col. Thomas Lee was born Dec. 20, 1774, in Hudson, N.Y. He came to DeWitt at a relatively early date but no information concerning his life here has been confirmed. His wife's maiden name was Asenath Wibants and they had at least one son, George W. Lee. Col. Lee died at DeWitt, Dec. 2, 1852, and is buried in the DeWitt cemetery.

Barna Allen (also record as Burma or Barney Allen) was born in Washington Co., N.Y., Nov. 12, 1786 (?). He settled south and west of DeWitt in 1837 and was among the earliest members of the DeWitt Baptist Church in 1842. He died March 4, 1847, and is buried in the DeWitt cemetery beside his wife, Betsie (Heath) Allen who died in 1841. Their son George W. Allen became a prominent settler of section 19, this township.

The tombstone of Enos Silsbee in the DeWitt cemetery has been engraved (at a later date) "PVT. N.Y. Militia, War of 1812." He died Nov. 7, 1845, at the age of 48. He is buried with his wife, Abigail, and two daughters who died at an early age. Other than these facts, nothing fur-

ther is known.

David Olin Sr. came to DeWitt at an early date, reportedly in 1837. His name is frequently mentioned in the early histories of this area but as he had a son by the same name it is nearly impossible to distinguish who is being credited. David Sr. is credited with building the Baptist Meeting House on north Bridge street and one of the early schools at Gunnison's corners. He is also listed among the early owners of DeWitt's Clinton House hotel. He died here on August 25, 1857, at the age of 62, and is buried in the DeWitt cemetery.

Henry Chappell (also spelled Chappel) is believed to have been an early settler south and west of DeWitt. He died here on May 28, 1861, at the age of 72 and was originally buried in the former Goodrich cemetery on Schavey road. His grave, along with several others, was removed to the DeWitt cemetery at a later date.

James Stickles, an early settler of southern DeWitt township, died August 26, 1876, at the age of 79. He is said to have been buried in the Hurd cemetery beside his wife Lucy.

Daniel Ferguson Jr. (1794-1864) is believed to have come to the DeWitt settlement in 1834 along with his father, Daniel Sr. and several brothers. Most of this large family, including Daniel Jr., eventually settled in Olive township near Muskrat Lake. Specific references to him are confusing due to he and his father having the same name. He was probably buried in either the Alward or Merrihew cemeteries, though no connection to either has been located.

Dr. Hiram Stowell (whose veteran status has not yet been firmly established) was a native of Cayuga Co.,

## Historic DeWitt

By Kenneth Coin

N.Y. He and his family came to DeWitt in 1837 and settled on the Looking Glass river, several miles upriver from the Scott settlement. He was elected Clinton county's first Judge of Probate in 1839 and afterwards came to the village of DeWitt where he built an impressive home on the northeast corner of Main and Franklin. He died here on August 25, 1857, at the age of 62 and was buried in the DeWitt cemetery.

According to records of the Daughters of 1812, Porter Briggs is said to have lived in the DeWitt area but this has not been confirmed by local records. It is possible that he was connected with the later Briggs family of southern DeWitt township.

B  
R  
J  
G

Brink

DECEMBER 21, 1905.

## REUNITED BY DEATH

John H. Brink Did Not Long Survive Wife

## RESPECTED PIONEERS

Of Dewitt, Whose Deaths Occurred Only Three Days Apart

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Brink, among the most highly respected citizens of Dewitt township, passed away within the past week their deaths occurring only three days apart. Mrs. Brink, who had been in poor health for some time, died Friday evening, December 16. Her companion of more than forty years, who had been ill for nearly two years, died Monday night at eleven o'clock.

Rachel Dickinson was born in Shacksburgh, Oswego county, New York, November 13, 1840. She moved to Lyndhurst, Onondaga county, New York, when two years of age and resided there until 1857 when she moved to Huron, New York, where for several years she taught school. On March 16, 1866, she was united in marriage to John H. Brink. Mrs. Brink has been a great sufferer for many years with a complication of diseases but bore her sufferings with patience. She was a member of the W. R. O., of Dewitt, in which she held various offices, also a member of Dewitt Grange, No. 459, in which order she was chaplain for six years. She was active in the Clinton County Pioneer Society and was chairman of the obituary committee for nine years.

John H. Brink was born in Phelps, Ontario county, New York, November 18, 1840, being just five days younger than his wife. He moved to Huron, Wayne county, New York, when a small boy. In 1861 he enlisted in Company F, 75th New York Infantry, and served three years. Mr. and Mrs. Brink came to Olive township, in 1868, and resided on a farm there until two years ago when they purchased a home in Dewitt village. Mr. Brink had been afflicted with kidney disease for several years but was able to be about his home until a few hours after his wife's death when he was taken with a chill and failed rapidly. Mr. Brink was a member of the G. A. R. and had held many offices in that order.

He was treasurer of Dewitt Grange for nine years and a member of the executive committee at the time of his death. He was also a member of the Clinton County Pioneer Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Brink are survived by two sons, Fenton, of Watertown, and George, who resides on the old homestead, in Olive, one daughter, Mrs. Theodore Neller, of Olive, and six grandchildren. Mr. Brink is also survived by one brother, Reuben Brink, one sister, Mrs. George Blizzard, of Olive, and one sister, Mrs. Jane Bradburn, of New York; while Mrs. Brink is survived by one brother, S. Dickinson, of Kansas; two sisters and one brother in New York state.

Mr. and Mrs. Brink were held in the highest esteem by all who knew them. They were always ready to aid the sorrowing and afflicted ones about them and their lives were filled with good deeds. No more fitting tribute can be paid them than that they did all they could to lighten the burden of others.

The funeral of Mrs. Brink was held at the Baptist church in Dewitt village, Sunday afternoon, Rev. W. A. Simmons officiating. The funeral of Mr. Brink was held today at 11 o'clock at the Baptist church. Interments were in the W.H. cemetery.

## VETERAN DIES

Reuben Brink Passed Away at His Home in St. Johns, April 17.

Reuben Brink passed away at his home in St. Johns, Friday morning, April 17, from pleuro-pneumonia, after an illness of about ten days. Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock, Rev. J. H. Wilcox of the Methodist Episcopal church officiating.

Reuben Brink was born April 3, 1848, in Huron township, Wayne county, New York. In 1866 he was united in marriage to Mary Jane Dickinson of New York. In 1868 they came to Michigan and settled upon a farm in Olive township, where some years later Mrs. Brink passed away. On July 31, 1895, he was united in marriage to Ida E. Knight of Olive. In February, 1906, they moved to Dewitt where they resided until two years ago when they moved to St. Johns.

Besides his wife, he leaves to mourn their loss, two sisters, Mrs. George Blizzard of Olive and Mrs. Jane Bradburn of Rochester, New York; also several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Brink was a veteran of the Civil war and a member of the G. A. R., having enlisted in Company A. of the 9th New York Heavy Artillery in September, 1861, and served until the close of the war. He took an active part in the battle of Cedar Creek and served under General Sheridan.

Those who attended the funeral from away were: C. L. Brink of Hartford, Wis.; E. O. Place of Owosso, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Knight and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Beltringer of Ann Arbor, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Knight and son, Lester, of Laingsburg and Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Neller and sons, Fenton and Elton, and Berton Neller of Lansing.

Brink

left her home in Olive, after months of intense suffering from cancerous affection, Mary J., wife of Rheuben Brink. Mary J. Dickinson was born in Lyndander township, Onondaga county, N.Y., May 25th 1843. At the age of 14 years she accompanied her parents to Wayne county, N.Y. January 1, 1868. She was married to Rheuben Brink and in the following spring, they moved to Olive, Clinton county, Mich., where they have since resided. One son was born to them. When this son had reached the age of 17 years and was just budding into what promised to be a bright and useful manhood the summons came from an unseen world and these parents who adored their son were called to give him up. The blow came with crushing force upon them. His mother never recovered from the shock nor ever ceased to mourn his loss. Oh, what must the meeting have been when she too crossed the dark river and clasped hands with that son for whom she has mourned so sincerely for eight long years as well as many other friends who have preceded her to that home from whence no traveler returns. Mrs. Brink was a good neighbor and a true friend. None named her but in praise. She became converted to Christianity while quite young and although she was a member of no church her daily life showed that she was a true Christian and trusted in Him who doeth all things well. She bore her suffering with great patience; she seldom if ever complained. Death had no terrors for her. We trust that the one that gave comfort to her for whom we mourn will comfort the hearts of the bereaved husband, sisters and brothers.

One by one earthly ties are broken  
As we see our love decay,  
And the hopes so fondly cherished  
Brighten but to pass away  
One by one our hopes grow brighter  
As we near the shining shore,  
For we know across the river  
Wait the loved ones gone before.

The funeral was held at the Baptist church in DeWitt, Monday, Rev. E. D. Coffin officiating. The body was laid to rest in DeWitt cemetery.

# TWO KILLED DROWN IN ACCIDENT FRIDAY

## Driver Falls Asleep At Wheel

### Henry Raby and George Brink Of Dewitt Victims Of Pathetic Mishap

Residents of St. Johns were extremely agitated Friday morning when news of one of the most pathetic accidents to happen in this county was reported to the local authorities. About four o'clock a Ford touring car driven by George E. Brink of Dewitt went into the dredge ditch three miles north of the city, just a short distance from Livingston's corners.

Two members of the party were drowned in about three feet of water. The two boys in the car escaped uninjured. The car was raised from the ditch and brought to this city by the Owl garage wrecker. The damage to the car was not serious. The windshield was destroyed and the fender and running board and rear wheel on the left side of the car were broken.

George E. Brink, Henry C. Raby, John Brink, 12 years, and Porter Palmer, 11 years, left Dewitt at two o'clock Tuesday morning on a berrying and fishing trip. They arrived at St. Helena, 3rd lake, where they remained Wednesday and Thursday. The party left for the return trip home Thursday afternoon between three and four o'clock.

On the trip home, according to the story told by Porter Palmer, they ran off the road near Forest Hill, striking a telephone pole. The fender was broken loose from the running board of the car and the camping outfit was thrown from the car by the impact. This accident was due to Mr. Brink falling asleep at the wheel.

After getting things straightened up the party again proceeded on their way and the trip was uneventful until the car came to the scene of the fatal accident. The two boys were asleep in the rear seat of the car. The Palmer youth states that he felt the jolting of the car and roused up a little and thought they were passing over some rough road. He was awakened only when the car struck the water. He immediately tore away part of the back curtain on the car and crawled out, then he assisted the Brink boy out of the car.

The two boys got hold of Mr. Raby's head and tried to pull him out of the water, but failed to raise the man's head from the water only to the eyes. When this attempt at rescue proved useless the boys removed a floor board from the car and attempted to get Mr. Brink out. They were unable, however, to even move the body an inch.

The youths ran up to the road and attempted to hail a passing truck, but the driver never heard them or failed to stop to assist. Hearing a dog bark

the boys sought a house that must be nearby. They found the home of Frank Kus, who works for Mr. Livingston, and got him out to help them. When Mr. Kus arrived at the scene two more cars had come to the scene of the accident. One of the cars stopped to help while the other came to this city and called Dr. Silsby. The driver of this car took the boys to the O. B. Davis home where they were



GEORGE E. BRINK

given dry clothing and food. Gall Davis then took the boys to their homes near Dewitt.

Frank Kus called Mr. Livingston and in a short time Nightwatch Alward, Sheriff Barnes and Dr. Silsby were on the scene. W. R. Osgood & Sons were called by the doctor to take charge of the bodies. Investigation showed that the car had traveled at a slow rate of speed diagonally across the road from the west to the east side, through the willows and down the embankment where it turned over into the dredge ditch. It was also very evident that all members of the ill-fated car were sound asleep when the car left the road.

George E. Brink was 50 years old and was born on the farm where he resided at the time of his untimely death. He leaves the widow and one son, John, who was in the accident. The farm home is located one mile north and one-half mile west and one-quarter mile north of Dewitt.

Henry C. Raby was 50 years of age and was born near Okemos. He is survived by a wife and two sons.



HENRY C. RABY

Chester and Harlan, age 16 and 17. The farm home is one mile north and one mile west of Dewitt.

Both were prominent in church work in Dewitt and will be greatly missed in this activity.

Porter Palmer is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Palmer who reside on route four near St. Johns, and is a cousin of John Brink.

A double funeral was held for the two neighbors who met their death together, from the Baptist church at 10:30 Sunday morning. Rev. Ellenger, pastor of the German church and Rev. Wahl, retired minister residing in Dewitt, were the officiating pastors. Interment was made in the Dewitt cemetery. W. R. Osgood & Son of St. Johns had charge of the funeral.

cream cashmere and silk, trimmed in chiffon, and carried pink and cream roses. Miss Kinney was attired in white cashmere, trimmed in lace. Miss Pearce was dressed in cream colored cashmere, trimmed in chiffon. The bridesmaids carried pink and white carnations. The groom and his attendants were dressed in the conventional black, the groom wearing yellow roses, the attendants wearing red roses.

After the congratulations had been received, the bridal party and friends were escorted to the two spacious dining rooms, where an elaborate supper, from tastily decorated tables, was served by eight young ladies, the Misses Webb, Pike, Kinney, Brinkerhoof, Martzke, Whitakor, Blizzard and Randell, who were each presented with a dainty card tied with white ribbon, upon which was written the bill of fare, also day and date, to be kept as souvenirs. At the ends of the tables presided Mrs. S. Norris, Mrs. M. Diles, Mrs. E. Diles and Mrs. D. Rockwell, who poured the coffee for the girls to serve. The bill of fare consisted of coffee biscuits, meats, pickles, cabbage salads, olives, ice cream, water melon, lemon cheese and angel-food cake, oranges, bananas, fruit and bride's cakes. Piano music was furnished by the Misses Lucille Scott, Edna Randell and Mae Clavey. Violin music was furnished by Victor Clavey. Mr. and Mrs. Brink left for the state of New York and Niagara Falls, with the best wishes of their many friends. They were the recipients of many elegant and useful presents, the following of which is a list:

From father to bride—Clock of \$300, 1 set of solid silver teaspoons, one enameled bedstead. From mother to bride—Clock of \$150, one large room and all furnishings complete with black walnut set, carpet, lace curtains, one decorated chamber set, lace counter panes and shams, one pair of hemstitched sheets and pillow cases, celluloid comb and whisk broom, silver thimble, one set of dining room chairs, one gardiner stand, one feather bed and pillows, one dozen ice cream cups, and to the groom, one china mustard cup and saucer. From brother to bride—Clock of \$10, one china clock. From Mark Brazor and Josie Pearce—One fancy back rocker, one set of silver table spoons. One half dozen, each, silver dessert and tea spoons. Mr. George Brink—Silver berry spoon. Mr. and Mrs. Ruth Brink—Silver and china fruit dish—Mr. and Mrs. V. H. Pearce. Mr. and Mrs. Dey Van Hout, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. A. Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Major Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. A. Whitaker—Gold lined silver fruit dish. E. M. Webb and family, Mrs. Julia Scott and A. H. Alexander—Decorated Glass tea set. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Blizzard, Mr. and Mrs. H. VanDyke, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rockwell and Mr. and Mrs. Loren Dunlap—Gold lined silver fruit basket. Otto Martzke, Albert Martzke, Theo. Martzke, Martha, Anna and Mary Martzke—One set of silver knives and forks. Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Norris, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Norris and Frank and Grace Norris—One oak book case and secretary combined. Mr. and Mrs. E. Loether, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lancton, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lancton, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Scott Pike, Mr. and Mrs. Mithard Pike, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Gohner, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Morris, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. Maria Hill, Mrs. Hannah Blizzard, Mr. A. A. Wilbur, Mr. Loren Hill, Mr. Louis Yantz, Misses Fannie and Minnie Norris—Silver butter dish. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Scott—Silver celery dish. Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Scott and Mrs. Lucille Scott—Silver salad fork. Mr. and Mrs. M. Bruzer—Silver berry spoon. Wm. Brinkerhoof—Silver and glass pickle custer—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Henning and Miss Emma Henning—One set of silver knives and forks to the groom. From Mary Brink, (deceased), Mr. E. D. Way and family—L. Herbert, Leed—2. Theodore Nellar and family—China cake dish. Grace Heith—Parlor lamp.

Mrs. Theodore Stenhardt—Large framed painting. Luther Sibley and Robert Elwanger—Oval table cloth. Mr. and Mrs. David Huffman—Decorated glass celery dish. Albert Yantz—Our wedding bells, (book) Rev. T. W. Illman—Tribal bells, (book) Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Knapp—Fancy hand-kerschiff. Belle Ashworth—Celluloid hand-kerschiff and glove boxes. Mr. and Mrs. W. Emory and Earl Emery—Decorated china jardiniere. Mr. and Mrs. Dr. R. Simmonds, May and Loy Simmonds—Two sets of individual salt and pepper shakers. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Blizzard—One set of silver nut pliers and cracker. Geo. Itoher—Silver sugar shell. Frank Huffman—Silver butter knife and gold lined sugar shell. Mrs. Ella Brinkerhoof, and Bert Brinkerhoof—One set of china fruit plates. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Durham—China fruit basket. Mrs. O. Beaudell—Silver butter knife and sugar shell. Mr. and Mrs. Clancy and May and Lulu Clancy—Decorated china cake plate. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. VanDyke—Glass cheese dish. Fred Oberly—China cream and sugar set. Mr. and Mrs. G. Yantz—the human table cloth. Mr. and Mrs. S. Tucker—One linen table cloth. Mr. and Mrs. J. Toot—China pin tray. Mrs. June Northway—Patent swing rocker. Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Kinney and Lutie and Bertha Kinney—Decorated jardiniere. Mr. and Mrs. S. Castle—One full chin tea set—From groom to bride. Decorated, white enameled paper holder. Mr. and Mrs. W. VanDyke—Flocked blue bed blanket—Mrs. Carrie Simmonds—One pair of woolen blankets. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Dills—Two fancy towels—Letha and Leah Wilcox—One linen table cloth—Mr. and Mrs. August Wotz—China fruit dish—Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hyde and Elsie—Hand embroidered center piece—Genevieve Brinkerhoof—China cream and sugar set and cake plate—Mr. and Mrs. Louis Reed—One dozen napkins—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Simmonds—Silver, gold lined sugar shell and butter knife—Mr. A. H. Helso—Glass berry set—Mrs. Anges Brink—One pair of glass trays—Talc—And Nine Blizzard—China cheese dish—Mrs. E. B. Lott—Six china fruit plates—Mr. and Mrs. L. Huott—Large rug—Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Woodruff—One pair glass rose bowls—Mrs. M. and Cesper Smith—Six glass fruit plates—Geo. Vandkye and Nellie Smalley—Nickle crumb tray and scraper—Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Dills—Counterspane—Andrew Nettler—Decorated china cake plate—Mr. and Mrs. E. Lott—One dozen chin fruit plates—Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Dills, and Gerry and Helen Dills—Silver sugar shell—Mr. and Mrs. L. Barton—Decorated glass spoon holder—Jky. VanDyke—Leather covered easy chair—From bride to groom.

The guests from abroad were, Rev. T. W. Illman, Bay City; Mr. and Mrs. John Carpenter, of Barry county; Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Simmonds and family and Mrs. J. Northway of Buceroft; Mrs. S. Castle, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. E. Bidell, the Misses Ottie Bedell, Enie Hyde, Edna and Beatrice Blizzard of Lansing.

#### ONE WHO WAS THERE

## AN OCTOBER WEDDING.

Just Before the Snow Flies a Happy Day With Pair Were United.

One of the largest and most charming weddings in this vicinity took place Wednesday, October 19, 1898, in the beautiful home of Mr. and Mrs. Varney Pearce, of Olive, where nearly three hundred friends assembled to witness the marriage of their eldest daughter, Altie, to Fenton P. Brink, one of Olive's most estimable young men. They have both resided in Olive since childhood, consequently have many warm friends.

The home was beautifully decorated through out with plants and flowers, the parlors being decorated in dahlias and cosmos blossoms. The guests were received by Mr. and Mrs. Dr. Simmonds. At six p.m., while the beautiful strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march was being played by Miss Lucille Scott, of DeWitt, the bridal party marched into the north parlor, and stood beneath an immense floral horse-shoe, made of white dahlias, where Rev. T. W. Illman, pastor of Universalist church in Bay City, performed a very beautiful and impressive ceremony. The bride and groom were attended by Varney Pearce, a brother of the bride, Miss Hattie Kinney, Mark Drazer and Miss Josephine Pearce, sister of the bride. The bride was prettily attired in

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Yantz—China berry set. Mrs. E. Biddell and J. M. and Ottie Bidell—Wine humpbacked. Mrs. H. W. Widdell—Decorated chin. Mr. and Mrs. Dr. R. Simmonds—Decorated chin. Mr. and

BRINK

**George Alton Brink**

George Alton Brink, son of John and Rachel Brink, was born May 23, 1873, in Olive township, Clinton county, Mich. He received his education in the public school of Olive township. He became a prosperous farmer in Olive township and was very well liked by his neighbors and all that knew him.

December 19, 1901, he was married to Miss Edith Reed. They were blessed with one son, John, now 12 years old. About 15 years ago he joined the Methodist church of Dewitt. Later he transferred to the Baptist church of Dewitt. He came to his death by an auto accident Friday morning, August 3rd at 3 o'clock. He was 50 years old and leaves his wife to mourn his departure, his son, John, and one sister, Mrs. Theo Neller of Lansing, Mich., and many friends.

Brinkerhoff

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Today

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## ANNIVERSARIES

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### The Lees

Avery and Mabel Lee of Cortez, Fla., formerly of DeWitt, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary with a buffet luncheon given by their children from 2-5 p.m. March 27 at Sunny Shores Club House, 115th St., W. Bradenton, Fla. This will be the first time in 31 years that the entire family has been together at the same time.

He is a retired Oldsmobile tool maker. She is a homemaker.

The couple, married March 24, 1934, in St. Johns, have six children, Phyllis, Keith, Vernon, Audrey, Margery and Ruth, nine grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

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Brinkerhoff

MRS. D. W. BRINKERHOFF.

The sudden death of Mrs. D. W. Brinkerhoff Monday morning, which occurred at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Gulusha Pennell, was a severe shock to her family and the community. She retired Sunday evening seemingly in better health than she had been in a long time. Toward morning Mr. Brinkerhoff thought he heard her breath heavily, and speaking to her he received no reply. He aroused the family and a physician was summoned but his aid was not needed. The spirit of this gentle lady had passed and the sleep to which her eyes had closed had been the great sleep for time.

Juliette Odell was born in Cayuga county, New York, April 2, 1820. In 1842, she was married to D. W. Brinkerhoff and they afterwards removed to Ohio, where they resided for seven years. From there they came to Michigan and settled in Lenawee county, afterward removed to Watertown, county, about thirty years ago, in which time they have resided in county with the exception of four years, which they spent in Detroit at the time Mr. Pennell was United States marshal. Mrs. Brinkerhoff was a remarkable lady and possessed such a strong, gentle character that her presence always exerted a benign influence on those about her. She was essentially a woman of the heroic circle. For a lifetime she had been a great reader and was a veritable storehouse of information which she retained, especially in the closing years. With all, she was strong in simplicity, mighty in tenderness, and her life was full of the grace and glory of true womanhood. Her death is indeed a great loss but the memory of her motherly presence and kind deeds will always be a precious solace to her bereaved family and friends.

The funeral was held at the house Wednesday conducted by Rev. Hall and interment occurred at DeWitt cemetery.

Brinkerhoff

## Native of Olive 1940 Township Dies in Lansing Saturday

Wm. D. Brinkerhoff, 68, a native of Olive township, died in a Lansing hospital Saturday morning following a brief illness from pneumonia. A resident of Lansing since 1909, Mr. Brinkerhoff was affiliated with the Masonic order, Lansing Shrine club, T. O. O. F., and the Lansing Aerie of Eagles. For the past 30 years he was a co-partner of the Brinkerhoff-McMahon funeral home in Lansing. He served three terms as Ingham county coroner.

Mr. Brinkerhoff leaves his widow, Nellie; a daughter, Doris, of New York; a brother, Bert, and a sister, Mrs. Bert Taylor, both of Dewitt.

Brockman

Adolph Brockman,  
Aged 70, of Olive  
Township, Succumbs  
Mar 19 — 1942

Adolph Brockman was born in Germany Feb. 23, 1872, and came to America at the age of three with his parents, who located in Westphalia.

He was united in marriage to Isadore Eldridge March 14, 1900. They lived in Riley and later moved to the farm which they have now occupied for about 35 years, on US-27 five miles south of St. Johns.

He united with the Olive Methodist church in 1914 and in 1923 joined the St. Johns Methodist church under the pastorate of Rev. M. L. Fox. He had been a faithful attendant until his recent illness.

He was taken ill about the first of the year and was removed to the Clinton Memorial hospital about the first of March. He passed away Monday, March 16.

He is survived by his widow; a foster son, Eugene; two brothers, Martin Brockman of Dearborn, and Fred Brockman of St. Charles, and one sister, Mrs. Lizzie Hoerner of St. Charles.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p. m. today at the Osgood funeral home, conducted by Rev. Henry W. Ellinger. Burial at Mt. Rest cemetery.

Brooks

## Leone Smalley Of Dewitt, And John Brooks Married

Dewitt — Miss Leone Gertrude Smalley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Smalley on North Market street in this village, was united in marriage Saturday, Jan. 18, 1930, to John Brooks of Lansing, at the parsonage of the Westminster Presbyterian church, the pastor, Rev. A. C. Buchanan officiating. They were attended by Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Brooks of St. Johns, brother of the groom. For the present they will reside with the groom's mother, Mrs. Brooks of Lansing.

# Pioneer Bingham Couple Mark Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary

Brooks



MR. AND MRS. ROSS B. BROOKS

## MARRIED FIFTY YEARS FEB. 23

### 80 Attend Golden Wedding Celebration for Bingham Couple Sunday

On the day following Washington's birthday, 1887, two Bingham township young people, Ross E. Brooks, 25, and Miss Nellie J. Hunt, 24, were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Seth Hunt, two miles south of St. Johns.

Fifty years later, lacking two days, 80 friends, relatives and neighbors gathered at the same place on Sunday, Feb. 21, 1937, to help them celebrate their golden wedding.

Mrs. Brooks was born in Bingham and Mr. Brooks came to that township with his parents when he was three years old. Together they have spent their whole married life in Bingham, with the exception of four years in Olive, and have lived the past 39 years on the old Hunt farm. Few are more widely known or have more friends than this esteemed couple.

Thirteen of the wedding guests of 50 years ago still survive. Four of them were present at the celebration Sunday: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Swain, Herbert Ornes and Claud Hunt. The latter was a small boy and now recollects little of the ceremony.

ards of St. Johns. The witnesses were Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Dills of Dewitt, who have now passed their 60th wedding anniversary, and were unable to attend Sunday.

Directly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Brooks began house-keeping on the farm a mile east and 1 1/2 south of St. Johns. After a few years they moved to Olive, and four years later occupied their present home. Both are in fair health and daily carry out their duties at the farm and home. They are members of Bingham and Pomona grange, and Mr. Brooks is also a member of the Clinton County Farm Bureau.

At the golden wedding observance Sunday a short program was carried out consisting of two vocal selections by Mrs. Mary Doyle, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. George Brooks; a violin solo by Miss Marnalyse Brooks; a reading, "That Old Sweetheart of Mine," by George Kelly, and a short talk by Stephen Hicks of East Lansing. Refreshments were served during the afternoon.

Among the guests from away were Mrs. Bertha Brooks, Goodrich; Mr. and Mrs. Lina Conn, Owosso; Mr. and Mrs. James Gilmore, Jackson; Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Barnes, Charlotte; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Brooks, Milford; Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mack and daughter, of Lansing; and Mr. and Mrs. Wilden of Grand Ledge; also Mr. and Mrs. Brooks' two children, George Brooks, of St. Johns, and Miss Amelia Brooks of Flint.

The honored couple received many fine gifts.

# Ross B. Brooks Taken By Death

Well-Known Bingham Man  
Passes at Home Friday;  
In Grange for Many Years

Ross B. Brooks, 84, well known Bingham township man and Grange worker, died Friday, June 7, at his home two miles south of St. Johns.

He was born on a farm in Jackson county on Oct. 11, 1861, the third child of Oscar and Elmina Holmes Brooks. When he was very young his people moved to Clinton



ROSS B. BROOKS

county and settled on a farm in Bingham township now known as the William Gegler farm. He attended the Cramer school and the East Ward school in St. Johns.

On Feb. 23, 1887, he was united in marriage to Nellie Hunt of Bingham and they resided in that township for several years before moving to Olive township. They returned in 1899 to the farm where they have since resided.

He is survived by two children, George H. and Amelia M.; one granddaughter, Maralyse Brooks; and a sister, Mrs. Hattie Wakefield. Mrs. Brooks preceeded him in death on Sept. 11, 1945.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks were members of Bingham Grange for 40 years and he had served on the executive committee of Clinton County Pomona Grange and was a member of Michigan State Grange.

Funeral services were held at The Eberts in St. Johns at 2:00 p. m. Monday, Rev. Ray T. Caldwell officiating. Interment was at Mt. Rest cemetery.

MRS. ROSS B. BROOKS



Brooks

Nellie Jane Hunt, third child of Seth and Amelia Conn Hunt, was born in Bingham township, Clinton county, Michigan, June 25, 1882.

Her parents and grandfather, Lynds Conn, were early settlers in Bingham, coming before the railroad entered St. Johns. Her mother's family were of Revolutionary War stock from near Lake Champlain, New York. Her father's family also traced ancestry back to Revolutionary times. He taught six terms of school in St. Johns and also built one of the first school houses in the village of St. Johns, besides teaching in Vermont and New York and in eastern Iowa. He built the farm home on Parks Road where his daughter spent the greater part of her life.

She married Ross B. Brooks of Bingham, Feb. 23, 1887. They started their life on a farm on what is now the Campbell farm about a mile from her parent's farm. In 1892 they moved to a farm in Olive township. Due to her mother's failing health they returned to the Hunt farm and continued to reside there. Two children were born to this union, George Hunt Brooks and Amelia May Brooks.

Mrs. Brooks had been active until just October when she fell while out of doors and fractured her right arm. She had been bedridden since the accident and had been failing rapidly for the last few weeks.

She had been a long time member of Clinton County Pomona Grange, of Bingham.

# Brooks

## Palmer-Brooks.

A very pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson H. Palmer Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 21, when their only child and daughter, Miss Goldie Fern, was united in marriage to George H. Brooks, Rev. Matt Mullen, Congregational pastor officiated. About forty relatives and intimate friends of the couple were present.

The home looked very pretty with its decorations of ferns, palms, chrysanthemums and roses, the color scheme being pink and white.

The bride was prettily gowned in cream messaline with an over-drape of shadow lace and carried a large shower bouquet of cream bride's roses, a gift from the ladies of the West Bingham Aid. The full ring service was used, Miss Helen Latting, little daughter of Atty. and Mrs. Latting, of Grand Ledge and a cousin of the bride, carrying the ring in a white rose. They were unattended.

Preceding the ceremony, Miss Mayme Fedewa sang "Because," and after congratulations "I Love You True".

After the ceremony, a three course luncheon was served to the guests after which Mr. and Mrs. Brooks left for a short trip to Detroit, Cleveland and other Ohio points.

Mrs. Brooks is a very popular young lady of St. Johns as well as Bingham. She graduated from the St. Johns high school with the class of '08 and also spent one year in the music department of the St. Mary's Academy at Monroe. She is recognized as a very talented musician, a successful teacher of music in Riley, Bengal, Bingham and Victor townships for the past three years. She has been an enthusiastic worker in the Bingham Grange and U. B. Aid for a number of years. Mrs. Palmer is the third young lady from old class of '08 to marry within the past few weeks, Misses Ida Pflegharr and Catherine Kneeland preceding her.

Mr. Brooks is a very fine young man. He attended the St. Johns high and later went to the Ferris Institute at Big Rapids where he took a business course. He has held the position as bookkeeper and cashier in John C. Hicks' dry goods store for the past three years.

The following out-of-town relatives were present at the wedding: Atty. and Mrs. Raymond A. Latting of Grand Ledge; Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Weston and Mr. and Mrs. Jenson of Detroit, and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Eckert of Alma.

The happy couple will be at home to their friends at 55 E. Cass St., after November 17. They have the congratulations of their many friends.

BROWN

WED IN BENGAL

1939

Mrs. Edith Marzke of St. Johns and Robert Brown of Bengal were united in marriage at the U. B. parsonage in Bengal Thursday, November 16. Rev. E. O. McSherry performed the ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Brown will be at home to their many friends at the farm of the groom.

Brown

## Funeral Services Held For Lewis J. Brown January 13

Lewis J. Brown, son of Jasepr and Elizabeth Brown, aged 57 years, 16 months and 18 days, died in Dearborn at the St. Joseph Retreat Wednesday, Jan. 9, 1929, after a very short illness. He was born in Wayne county, Mich., near Plymouth. When he was three years old he moved to Clinton county with his parents.

On October 22, 1902, the deceased was married to Belva Coffman of Riley township, who survives him. To this union three daughters were born, Mrs. Leo Bullard, who lives in Riley, Gladys and Gleina who are at home. Mr. Brown is survived by his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, a sister, Mrs. Will Pearson of Riley, and one grandchild. He was an active member of the Slater church in Olive until it was discontinued and was afterwards a frequent attendant of the Congregational church.

Mr. Brown was a kind and loving father with a pleasant word for all and ready to help at any time of need. He was a great lover of his home where he will be sadly missed.

Funeral services were held at the home Sunday afternoon, Rev. Northrup officiating. Burial at Mt. Rest.

Lewis J. Brown, prominent Olive farmer, passed away at 6 p.m., Wednesday afternoon in St. Joseph's Retreat near Dearborn where he was taken two weeks ago suffering from mental disorder. The immediate cause of Mr. Brown's death is believed to have been pneumonia. His illness was not apparent until shortly before Christmas although he had been ailing from high blood pressure for some time. On December 28th Mr. Brown was brought to Clinton Memorial Hospital where his condition became rapidly worse and on the following day he was transferred to Dearborn.

Mr. Brown was one of Clinton county's largest and most prominent farmers. He operated 370 acres four and one-half miles southwest of St. Johns on the old Lansing-St. Johns road. His success in his business was outstanding and his advice sought in business and farming circles. He was a director of the St. Johns Agricultural association, the St. Johns Gas and Oil Co. and the F. C. Mason Co.

The deceased came to Olive from Wayne county, near Plymouth where he was born February 22, 1871. When a small boy his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Brown, moved to the home farm in Olive which home he always kept and to which from time to time he added more land. On October 22, 1902, he was married to Belva Coffman of Riley township who survives him. To this union three daughters were born, Mrs. Leo Bullard who lives in Riley and Gladys and Gleina who are at home. Mr. Brown is also survived by his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, and a sister, Mrs. Will Pearson of Riley. He was a member of the Slater church in Olive until it was discontinued and was afterward a frequent attendant of the Congregational church in St. Johns.

Funeral services will be held from the house Sunday afternoon at 2:00 p.m., Rev. G. S. Northrup officiating. Burial will be made in Mt. Rest cemetery in St. Johns.

## MRS. JASPER BROWN, 85, DIES MAY 23RD

HAD BEEN RESIDENT OF CLINTON COUNTY MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Mrs. Jasper Brown, 85, well known resident of Clinton county for more than a half century, passed away Thursday, May 23, 1929, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William Pierson of Riley township. The cause of her death was bronchial pneumonia.

Funeral services were conducted at the Baptist church in St. Johns Sunday afternoon. Rev. G. S. Northrup, assisted by Rev. W. Montgomery, officiated and burial was made in Mt. Rest.

Elizabeth Smith, daughter of Josiah and Lucinda Smith, was born in Wayne county, Michigan, on June 16, 1843. She was married to Jasper Brown on October 22, 1865, in Wayne county and in 1875 they moved to Clinton county. To this union were born three children, two of whom, Mrs. Belle Kipp and Lewis Brown, preceded her in death. She was an active member of the U. B. church in Bingham township.

She leaves to mourn their loss her daughter, Mrs. Wm. Pierson, a brother, William Smith of Plymouth, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mrs. Brown was a kind and loving parent, a good neighbor and was respected by all who knew her.

Brown  
Bullard

## FRIENDS HONOR NEWLYWEDS

250 Attend Reception For  
Mr. And Mrs. Leo Bullard  
Friday Night

Upon their return from a wedding trip to Niagara Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Leo J. Bullard, well known young couple who were married Oct. 31, were guests of honor at a reception held at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Brown of Olive, Friday evening, Nov. 4. The home was attractively decorated with pink and white astors. About 250 friends and relatives of the newly-weds were present.

Mrs. Bullard wore her wedding dress of silver lace over pink georgette with bertha of silver lace in period style. Sixteen girl friends of the bride, with pink and white aprons and pink head bands, served the wedding cake, measuring 19½ by 29 inches, and pink and white ice cream. Mrs. George Brooks played two piano solos.

Among the out-of-town guests were Dlek Peterson of Flint; Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Smith and daughter, Mary Louise, and Mrs. Wm. Smith of Detroit; Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gigmoe and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Mack of Lansing.

The young couple received many fine gifts in linen, silver and china. They will make their home in Riley township.

Brown  
Bullard

### **Raymond Bullard And Miss Gladys Brown Take Vows**

Gladys E. Brown, daughter of Mrs. Arthur Sullivan of St. Johns, and Raymond A. Bullard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bullard of Riley township, were united in marriage Saturday, June 11, 1932. The ceremony was performed at Fort Wayne, Indiana, by the Rev. Crowe.

The bride and groom are well known and have many friends. They will make their future home in Riley. Mrs. Bullard graduated from St. Johns high school with the Class of '23 and from the County Normal the following year. Later she received a degree at Ypsilanti and since that time has been teaching in Olive District No. 3.

Brown  
Bullard

### Leo Bullard And Miss Neva Brown Married Saturday

Two well known young people, Leo G. Bullard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Bullard of Riley, and Miss Neva Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis J. Brown of Olive, were married at St. Johns on Saturday, Oct. 29, 1927. The ceremony was performed by Rev. G. B. Northrup at his home.

The bride and groom were attended by Miss Gladys Brown, sister of the bride, and Raymond Bullard, brother of the groom. After a wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. Bullard will make their home in Riley.

Brown

## Honor Newlyweds At Reception in Olive Grange Hall

1934

Merle Beach—Mrs. Belva Brown Sullivan of St. Johns has announced the marriage of her daughter Glenna Brown to Lewis A. Plunkett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Plunkett of Laingsburg, Wednesday morning, April 4 at 10 o'clock at the Church of Resurrection at Lansing. Rev. Fr. John Gabrels performed the ceremony before the altar decorated with Easter lilies. They were attended by Miss Bernice Plunkett, sister of the groom and Arthur Jorae. The bridesmaid's dress was blue satin.

The bride wore a gown of white satin trimmed with Irish lace and carried a bouquet of bride's roses and sweet peas. Her veil was also lace and silk net. Over 100 relatives and friends of the bride and groom attended the wedding which was followed in the evening by a reception given by the bride's mother at Olive grange hall. Here the bride and groom received many lovely gifts. Over 300 relatives attended. They were present from Detroit, Lansing, Plymouth, St. Johns, Lapeer, Laingsburg, Jackson, Marrice, Holt and Dewitt. The bride is a graduate of the St. Johns high school while the groom is a graduate of the Laingsburg school where he has been teaching a number of years. They will reside for the present in Olive township at the Brown homestead.

Brunson



WM. H. BRUNSON

## DEATH CLAIMS WM. H. BRUNSON

SERVED THIS CITY AS  
POSTMASTER FOR  
16 YEARS

Was Well Known As Lawyer,  
Teacher and State Worker;  
Rites Held Dec. 26th

William H. Brunson, 74, St. Johns postmaster 16 years; lawyer, educator and trusted state employee; a man well liked and respected by the hundreds who came to know him during his lifelong residence in St. Johns and Clinton county, died Thursday, Dec. 22, 1932, at Grand Rapids, where he had spent the past eight months with his son, Lawrence W. Brunson and family. The body was brought to his old home and funeral services were conducted at 2 p. m. Monday by Rev. T. S. Cleaver at the Eberts funeral home with burial in Mt. Rest cemetery.

Appointed postmaster by President McKinley in 1899, the St. Johns postal system and postoffice management was greatly improved under Mr. Brunson's administration. He helped to establish the first city delivery service which began Sept. 1, 1902, with Frank Knapp, Watt Clise and George G. Wilson as the carriers. His efforts to secure rural free delivery for Clinton county were tireless, and on March 16, 1903, he had the satisfaction of witnessing the beginning of that service when 39 carriers started out on their routes from the several postoffices in the county, 15 of them operating out of St.

As a firm believer in the principles of the Republican party Mr. Brunson was one of the most regular of all regulars in politics. Beginning in 1886 he took active part in every campaign, local, state and national. For years he served as secretary of the county committee and could always be depended upon as a staunch supporter of the G. O. P. slate.

Schools and the means of education were of prime interest to Mr. Brunson. He completed the prescribed course of study in the St. Johns schools at the age of 18 and taught district school in Bengal township the following year. With this experience he returned to St. Johns to teach the third and fourth grades three years at \$32 per month after acting as janitor of the Central and North Ward buildings for one year. At the age of 28 he was principal of the Dewitt school. This completed his active career as a pedagogue but his interest in education remained constant and later in life he served as a trustee of Olivet College for four years and headed the St. Johns board of education for almost a decade.

It was not until he was 26 years old that Mr. Brunson felt that he could afford to matriculate at the University of Michigan. With what money he had saved as a teacher and as village clerk of St. John for two years, he worked his way through and was graduated from the College of Law in 1886, a classmate of Judge Kelly S. Scarl. Returning to St. Johns he became law partner of S. B. Daboll and this partnership continued for 8 years until the latter was appointed circuit judge. Later he became associated with William A. North and served as village and city attorney for several years.

In later life Mr. Brunson held number of state positions. He was head of the compiling division of the Secretary of State department for a short time, served as secretary of the Michigan Public Utilities Commission and up until about two years before his death was connected with the Auditor General and Secretary of State offices.

William H. Brunson was born in log house on a pioneer farm a half mile south of the Grove church in Victor township March 8, 1858. His parents, William and Mary Pier Brunson, had settled in Victor in 1843. Two years after the arrival of this son, the elder Brunson was elected Clinton county sheriff in the historic year of 1861. The family moved to St. Johns, then a struggling village.

In 1888 Mr. Brunson was united in marriage to Elizabeth Finch Greenbush. To them was born son, Lawrence. Mrs. Brunson passed away many years ago. Besides his son, Mr. Brunson is survived by two grandchildren, several other relatives and many friends.

Former  
School DeWitt  
Principal  
(ca 1876)