

Walbridge

Mrs. E. L. Walbridge Dead.

Mrs. Abbie Dills received word last week of the death of her cousin, Mrs. E. L. Walbridge, of Norfolk, Va. Mrs. Walbridge, formerly Miss Mary Topping, youngest daughter of the late G. W. Topping, M. D., of this place, was born in this village, where Theodore Schavey now lives, on June 9, 1859. After attending school here, she with her sister, the late Alice Topping-Weld of Pittsfield, Mass., attended Hillsdale College several years. In February, 1879, she was united in marriage to Edward L. Walbridge of St. Johns. After a few years spent in St. Johns they moved to Newport News, Va., residing there several years, then moved back to St. Johns, where they cared for Mr. Walbridge's mother, during the last years of her life. After her death they went back to Virginia, residing at Norfolk. Mrs. Walbridge died at Atlanta, Ga., of Bright's disease in the acute form. Her funeral was held at her home in Norfolk. Besides her husband she is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Zoe Newby, two grand sons, a half brother, George B. Topping, of Columbus, Ohio, and other relatives. The many friends in this vicinity of Mr. Walbridge and daughter, extend their deepest sympathy to them in their deep sorrow.

CCR . 8/17/22

Walbridge

Mrs. E. L. Walbridge Dies in Norfolk, Va.

Attorney Henry E. Walbridge received a telegram last Saturday from his brother, Attorney Edward L. Walbridge, of Norfolk, Va., stating that the latter's wife had died that day in Norfolk.

Mrs. Walbridge was well known in St. Johns and Dewitt. She was the daughter of Dr. Topping, pioneer Dewitt physician. Besides the husband, she is survived by a daughter, Zoe, now married and living in Norfolk.

NEWSPAPER

Walker

BENGAL WOMAN DIES JULY 19

Mrs. Walker was a member of the Maple Rapids Chapter of the O. E. S. No. 78, and of the St. Johns Lutheran church. She was a woman of strong and ambitious character, a devout Christian, and a good wife and mother.

Funeral Services Conducted
Monday Afternoon For
Mrs. V. A. Walker.

Mrs. V. A. Walker, well known and highly respected Clinton county resident for nearly 50 years, passed away Saturday, July 19, 1930, after an illness of four months at her home in Lansing where she had resided since 1929. The body was taken to the old farm home in Bengal township where funeral services



MRS. VERN WALKER

were conducted Monday afternoon by Rev. Thomas S. Cleaver. Burial was made in Mt. Rest cemetery.

Lena Reeb was born in Alsace, Germany, on May 30, 1870. At the age of eleven she came to Clinton county with her parents, George and Katherine Reeb, both of whom died several years ago. She attended the St. Johns high school and took a business course in Chicago, after which she taught school for several years.

On February 21, 1900, she was united in marriage to Vern A. Walker. To this union four sons were born, one of whom, Clair, preceded his mother in death, January 5, 1922. Mr. and Mrs. Walker lived on their farm in Bengal continuously until the spring of 1929 when they moved to Lansing.

She is survived by her husband, one sister, Mrs. Mary Seltzer of Oak Park, Ill., one brother, Jacob Reeb of Bengal township, three sons, Howard and Edgar also of Bengal, and Dr. Myrie A. Walker of Lansing, and one granddaughter, Helen Walker.

Vern A. Walker

Succumbs Sunday

Walker

Was President of
Walker Lumber Co.

Vern A. Walker, 84, of 11858 Bridge street, DeWitt, a prominent DeWitt businessman for many years, died at 12:35 Sunday, Jan. 22, at Clinton Memorial hospital following a long illness.

Mr Walker was a lumber dealer in DeWitt, heading the Walker Lumber company. He was also a former director of the State Bank of St. Johns, a farmer and a member of the Farm Bureau, a life member of the Maple Rapids Lodge 145 F&AM, member of the Royal Arch Masons No. 45 of St. Johns, and the St. Johns Commandery Knights Templar and the Maple Rapids OES.

FUNERAL services were held from the Vincent-Rummell Funeral Home in DeWitt Wednesday, Jan. 25, at 2 p. m. with burial in Mt. Rest Cemetery, St. Johns. The Rev Averill M. Carson officiated.

Mr Walker was born in Clinton county on Jan. 10, 1877, the son of William and Harriett Walker. He graduated from the Maple Rapids high school. He resided on a farm near Maple Rapids for 54 years before moving to DeWitt.

HE WAS married to Lena Reib who passed away in 1930. On July 15, 1931, he was married to Merle Krass at Lansing, who survives him.

Besides his wife, he is survived by two sons, Howard of DeWitt and Edgar of rural St. Johns, a step-daughter, Helen Krass of DeWitt; one sister, Eva Rice of St. Johns. Mr Walker also had three grandchildren, Mrs Dennis Irner of Lansing, Richard Walker and Priscilla Walker of rural St. Johns. Preceding him in death were two sons, Clare and Dr Myrle Walker.



Walker

→ At the home of Willis Walker, South Wight street, this evening will take place the marriage of his elder daughter, Miss Lula A. Walker, and Harry W. Hamill, nephew of Mr. and Mrs. James Purves, of Olive township and with whom he has lived since a child. The ceremony takes place at 7:30 o'clock, Rev. J. H. Wilcox of the Methodist Episcopal church officiating.

The guests, numbering about forty-five, will be received by Mr. Walker and Mrs. D. E. Boron, of Lansing, father and aunt of the bride. The rooms are decorated with carnations, roses, palms and ferns, the color scheme being pink and white. In one corner of the parlor is an arch of evergreens, beneath which the ceremony will take place.

Mrs. Geo. Brooks will render Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" to the strains of which the bride and groom will take their places attended by Mr. and Mrs. Carl Loomis of Merle Beach who were married yesterday afternoon. Miss Marguerite Spaulding will act as ring bearer.

The bride's gown is of white crepe meteor, with pearl trimmings and shadow lace and she will carry bride's roses. Mrs. Loomis will wear her wedding dress of white crepe meteor. Little Miss Spaulding will be attired in pink silk.

After the ceremony a two-course luncheon will be served by Miss Hazel Georgia and Harold Boron of Lansing, cousins of the bride, and Miss Isadore Stargis and Ed. Barnhart. The two young couples, Mr. and Mrs. Hamill and Mr. and Mrs. Loomis will take the 9:10 interurban car for Lansing. Mr. and Mrs. Hamill will spend a week with relatives of the groom in Owosso, after which they will be at home with the aunt and uncle of the groom in Olive.

Among the out-of-town guests expected for the wedding are Mr. and Mrs. Foster Elliott, Mrs. D. E. Boron and son, Harold, of Lansing; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shumaker of Olive and Harry Brown of Jackson, all relatives of the bride and groom.

Walter

1965



DEWITT—An Aug. 14 wedding is planned by Miss Kathleen Ann Lotre and Thomas W. Walter. Their engagement has been announced by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lotre of DeWitt, bride-elect's parents. Mr. and Mrs. William B. Walter of DeWitt are the future bridegroom's parents.

Walter



MRS. THOMAS W. WALTER

Lotre-Walter

DEWITT—A gown of Chantilly-type lace was worn by Miss Kathleen Ann Lotre, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lotre of DeWitt for her Saturday morning marriage to Thomas William Walter, son of Mr. and Mrs. William B. Walter of DeWitt.

Vows were exchanged in St. Therese Church in Lansing.

The bride's gown featured a fitted bodice, long sleeves and a chapel train. She carried white roses and stephanotis.

Mrs. Richard Lotre of DeWitt, sister-in-law of the bride, was matron of honor in mint green linen. Bridesmaids, dressed in pink and blue, were Miss Mary Ellen Lotre, sister of the bride; Miss Jane Walter, sister of the bridegroom; Miss Janet Fox and Miss Ellnor Hudson, all of DeWitt.

Attending the bridegroom were Philip Walter of DeWitt, his brother and best man; Ronald Fox, Brian Tingay and Howard Schooltz, all of DeWitt and Larry Mull of Lansing, ushers.

Julie Ann Walter, bridegroom's niece, and David Lotre, bride's brother were flowergirl and ringbearer.

After an evening reception at the church hall, the newlyweds departed for northern Michigan on their honeymoon trip.

Special guests were Mr and Mrs. Frank Walter of Lake Orion, grandparents of the bridegroom.

Ward

Oak Leaf Cluster



LT. LAWRENCE W. WARD

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Ward of Dewitt, received the Oak Leaf Cluster from Brig. Gen. Truman H. Landon early in April after he had flown in combat over the Marshalls in the South Pacific. The honor came almost exactly two years after Lt. Ward entered the service as an aviation cadet. He trained in California and New Mexico and received his wings as a bombardier. He was recently promoted to First Lieutenant.

WARE

We regretted to hear of the death of
our old friend and neighbor B. F. Ware.
Mr. Ware was a resident of our neigh-
borhood many years. He was always
respected and looked up to as an honest
upright man.

St. Johns Rep.

1-4-1894

features

Celebrating 150 years

Clinton County Sesquicentennial Part two of the Hewitt family saga

Editor's Note: The following history of the Hewitt family of Clinton County was written by Clinton County Historical Society member Ken Coin. Due to the length of the article, it has been divided into two parts. Part one, published in the Clinton County News on April 11, dealt with the family founders, Isaac and Phebe Hewitt, and histories of their children, William, Lyman, Deborah, and Fanny. Part two, in this week's CCN, chronicles the histories of the Hewitt's remaining children, Eliza, Abraham, Edmund, Simeon, and Luther.

Eliza Hewitt was born in Aug., 1824. Her first marriage was to George O. Wells of DeWitt on Dec. 16, 1841.

DeWitt in the 1840's became somewhat renowned for its large concentration of shoemakers and George Wells was among the earliest. The location of his shop(s) has not been pinpointed but early letters from the period mention him as working for a time with master bootmaker Andrew J. Bement (progenator of the St. Johns Bements) at his shop on East Main Street, and also for Nelson Alport in "the hole," a large factory which operated out of the cellar of the Clinton House hotel.

George and Eliza were also the county jailers for a time, living at the county jailhouse on East Washington Street. This was probably more of a job for Eliza than for George. During these early years the main function of a jailor was to feed and possibly launder for the prisoners whose cells were located in the basement of the jailhouse.

George died at age 38, on March 6, 1855, and Eliza remained in DeWitt several years, eventually

moving into the household of her late sister, Fanny Rouse.

In the early 1860's Eliza moved her family to Maple Rapids and was married there on Nov. 24, 1864, to David Goss. She resided in Maple Rapids for many years, eventually owning the home of her younger brother, Simeon, following his death. She died at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Eugene Brya in Olive Township.

Eliza is recorded as having eight children, but many of these died young and only two survived her at the time of her death on July 27, 1906. She was also the last surviving child of Isaac and Phebe Hewitt.

Abraham ("Abel") Hewitt was born about 1826 and was married in DeWitt on Jan. 1, 1849, to Jane E. Gunderman.

His death in the early 1850's cuts short his pioneer history in the county.

Jane, in 1854, married widower Jonathan Pearsall, an organizer and early driving force of the DeWitt Baptist Church. The Pearsall homestead included a large tract of land south of DeWitt along the east side of "Turner's Road."

After Jonathan's death in 1868, Jane remained in the DeWitt area, and, although no record of her death has been located, she remained an active member of the Baptist church until the 1870's.

Abel and Jane had two sons, Edward and George, both of whom remained in the DeWitt area.

Edmund Hewitt was born Dec. 15, 1828, and was married in DeWitt on Dec. 17, 1852, to Julia Bissell.

Just prior to his marriage, Edmund lived with the family of Rowland S. VanScoy (VanScoy would later

become a wealthy land owner in Essex Township). Rowland's wife was the former Ruth Bissell (his second wife was her sister), and it is believed that there was probably a connection between the wives of VanScoy and Julia Bissell Hewitt.

Julia died shortly after their marriage and on Aug. 12, 1860, Edmund married Mary A. Collins (a daughter of James and Margaret Collins?).

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Edmund enlisted in Co. E, 3rd Michigan Cavalry, and saw action throughout the war until his discharge in 1866.

Afterwards, he returned to his farm at DeWitt and remained on section 17, the remainder of his life. Edmund died on Aug. 21, 1905, and Mary, surviving him for several years, died Dec. 2, (1920?), at Rochester, Mich., where she had lived for several years.

Only two children survived Edmund and Mary, John, and Margaret (Mrs. Charles Griffey).

Simeon Hewitt was born in June of 1831, and was married on April 10, 1855, to Sarah J. Warren at DeWitt. She is thought to have been a daughter of Lyman and Betsey Warren (Lyman was an early master carpenter at DeWitt).

Both Simeon and Sarah joined the DeWitt Baptist Church shortly before their marriage. They remained active members only a short time and were "erased" from the membership rolls in 1858.

Sarah's fate remains unclear. In 1860, she is listed on the federal census as living in the household of Lyman and Betsey Warren, and in June of that year she was received back into the church where she remained on the membership rolls as late as 1870.

Shortly after the death of his mother in 1854,

Simeon purchased his parent's old homestead in DeWitt Township. In the late 1850's, he bought a saw mill in DeWitt which he then operated until the outbreak of the Civil War.

In 1861, he enlisted in the regiment known as the "Lancers" and served until his discharge.

Simeon was married a second time, June 2, 1864, at Linden, Mich., to Hannah (Hyatt) Hewitt, the widow of the eldest brother William. He moved to Maple Rapids where he opened a furniture store in 1869. To this business he added an undertaking establishment, both of which he continued to the time of his death. He sustained a substantial loss from the devastating Maple Rapids fire of 1885, but through persistence, was able to eventually rebuild his business.

Soon after his removal to Maple Rapids he joined the Methodist Episcopal church and was on the building committee for the structure built in 1868. Besides a strong devotion to his church, he held memberships in the Maple Rapids Masonic Lodge, Order of the Eastern Star, Grand Army of the Republic, and was a charter member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen.

Simeon died at his home in Maple Rapids, April 10, 1902.

Luther Hewitt, the youngest child of Isaac and Phebe Hewitt, died at the young age of 22 years, on May 28, 1855, and was buried beside his parents in the DeWitt cemetery.

Note: A special thanks to Virginia J. Watter-son of Carland, Calif., (a great-great-granddaughter of William and Hannah Hewitt) for submitting much of this genealogical information to the Clinton County Historical Society Archives.

Watter-son

Celebrating 150 years

Clinton County Sesquicentennial Hewitts play role in DeWitt, Maple Rapids

Editor's Note: The following history of the Hewitt family of Clinton County was written by Clinton County Historical Society member Ken Cohn. Due to the length of the article, it has been divided into two parts. Part one this week deals with the family founders, Isaac and Phebe Hewitt, with histories of their children, William, Lyman, Deborah, and Fanny. Part two, in next week's CCN, chronicles the histories of the Hewitt's remaining children, Eliza, Abraham, Edmund, Simeon, and Luther.

Researching family and local history often reveals many interesting and unexpected ties between families and communities. DeWitt and Maple Rapids share many such ties, most of which can be traced to the very beginnings of the village of Maple Rapids in the early 1850's — to the Hewitt family whose roots go back even further into the earliest years of Clinton County.

In 1835, the large family of Isaac and Phebe Hewitt came west out of Steuben County, New York. After coming "up the lake" to Detroit, they continued on foot and by ox team, inland to Oakland County.

Here the women remained while the men went further into the wilderness in search of favorable lands on which to settle. Along the Pontiac-Grand River Trail, they came through the small settlement of Capt. David Scott on the Looking Glass River in DeWitt. Apparently impressed with the lands about the settlement, Isaac purchased nearby land in section 17 and his eldest son, William, purchased 40 acres of government land in section eight.

During the winter of 1835-36, the Hewitt men began clearing their lands and building cabins. They soon returned to Oakland County and brought the waiting women and children to join them in DeWitt.

Isaac and Phebe Hewitt are known to have had nine children who grew to maturity. Of these, all were born in Prattsburg, Steuben County, New York, and all came with the parents to Clinton County during that winter. At the time of the move,

William, the eldest, was a married man of 23 years, while Luther, the youngest, was a mere lad of only about two years.

Isaac was one of the founders of the DeWitt Baptist Church which was organized in 1840. He died in DeWitt on March 28, 1846, and is believed to have been buried in DeWitt cemetery as was his widow when she died on Oct. 20, 1854.

The following are individual accounts of each of the nine children.

William A. Hewitt was born on Nov. 26, 1811, and was married in 1830 to Hannah Hyatt, a native of Orange County, New York, born on March 15, 1813.

From his initial purchase of 40 acres of government land, William would eventually become one of the most prosperous men of the county. Aside from his farming, he was among the first four justices of the peace for DeWitt Township, being elected to the office in the first township election in 1837. He retained the office for several decades, both in DeWitt and later at Maple Rapids. He also studied law under pioneer attorney Joab Baker.

In 1850, William purchased the "Boston House," a small hotel on the northeast corner of Main and Franklin Streets in DeWitt. This Greek revival style structure had been built in 1843 as the private residence of Judge Hiram Stowell (the county's first judge of probate), and following the Judge's death, had been converted into a hotel by Parker Webber, the former miller for the Waterloo Joint Stock Co., at Wacousta.

William did a good business with his hotel and other business interests, especially catering to the professional trade who required lodging during the peak seasons when DeWitt swelled with people attending county court or other county business.

But William apparently had his sights set higher. He located an area in Essex Township which he felt offered great advantages for a town. He purchased the land from Solomon Moss, and on Feb. 20, 1852, after selling his interests in DeWitt, he moved his family to the site on the Maple River at the rapids.

He and his four sons began at once to construct a

saw mill and pull a dam across the river. For their first home, they moved a log cabin from Judge Pettit's farm to a location near the dam site.

Soon after, William opened a merchantile store at the site and began finalizing his plans for the future village. After platting the site, he began construction of a hotel and in 1854, he succeeded Edward Perrin as postmaster.

There were many people who undoubtedly contributed to the founding and initial growth of Maple Rapids, but the village owes its founding to the vision and industry of William Hewitt.

William and Hannah had five children: Joseph (married Sarah A. Hubbell and had three children), Zachariah (married America Hoyt and had two children), Fannie (married Martin V. Brown), Isaac (married Helen C. Lansing and had two children), and Rufus Henry (married Jennie Smith and had two children).

William died at a young age on Feb. 12, 1863. Hannah remained at Maple Rapids and on June 2, 1864, was married to William's younger brother, Simeon Hewitt. She died on Nov. 2, 1898, and was buried beside William in the Sowle cemetery.

Lyman J. Hewitt was born about 1815, and was married on Feb. 4, 1841, to Harriet Woodruff. She was born about 1820, and is believed to have been a sister to Riley J. and Addison A. Woodruff, early cabinet makers and later merchants of St. Johns and DeWitt respectively.

Lyman owned an 80-acre tract of land in section 31 of DeWitt Township as early as 1839, but was himself a carpenter by trade. The earliest mention of his occupation comes from the DeWitt Township minute books of 1842, where it is recorded that he was hired to build a public animal pound in the village for the containment of stray livestock. Upon inspection, it was noted to be "completed as specified with good padlock and hasp."

By 1850, Lyman had moved his family to DeWitt village where he opened a carpenter's shop on the south side of the river. Here the record of Lyman vanishes. He died during the latter half of the 1850's, for by 1860, Harriet was married to Daniel

Moore of that village.

Lyman and Harriet had only one known child, Milo H. Hewitt who served in Company A of the 23rd Michigan Infantry during the Civil War, and later moved to eastern Michigan.

Deborah Hewitt was born about 1818, and on Jan. 1, 1839, was married to John C. Warren. For a time they lived in the DeWitt area, but no confirmed records past 1840 have been located regarding them.

The federal census of 1850 lists a Deborah "Warner," age 33 with an eight-year-old boy, Hiram, living with Abel Hewitt in DeWitt, but the same census also lists a Deborah "Warren," age 34, living with Geo. O. and Eliza (Hewitt) Wells at DeWitt.

Fanny Hewitt was born on July 14, 1820. She, along with her father, was a founder of the DeWitt Baptist Church in 1840. She was the first new member accepted into the church following its formal organization.

On Feb. 21, 1841, she was married to William Rouse at DeWitt, where they continued to reside. They became the parents of a large family of at least eight children. All of these became orphaned following the untimely deaths of their parents: Fanny on Nov. 20, 1859, and William on April 12, 1860.

These orphaned children were looked after by Fanny's sister, Eliza, who moved into the Rouse household with her own children. Some of the orphans were known to have been sent at times to Maple Rapids to stay with family members there.

The known Rouse children include: Eliza Jane (married a Naracon), William Henry (married Helen Dunham), Caroline, Helen and Ellen (twins), Albert, Hattie (married G.W. Randell), and Mary Jane.

Note: A special thanks to Virginia J. Watterson of Carland, Calif., (a great-great-granddaughter of William and Hannah Hewitt) for submitting much of this genealogical information to the Clinton County Historical Society Archives.

Warren

DAVID WARREN. —David Warren, one of the good old pioneers of Clinton county, died at the home of his daughter Jennie, Mrs. James Keeney, in St. Johns, May 16, 1895, in his 84th year. He was born near Cayuga Lake, N. Y., August, 1812. His parents died while he was yet quite young, and while yet in his teens, he went to Canada with an older brother, and after a short stay there, came to Michigan and settled in Monroe county, where in due time, he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Roberts. They left Monroe and went to Litchfield, Hillsdale county, and after a short stay there went to Pulaski, Jackson county, and in a short time returned to Litchfield, where they remained until 1853, when he removed with his family to this county and settled in the township of Riley, where he continued to reside until 1878, when his wife died, soon after which he was welcomed to the home of his daughter Jennie, Mrs. Keeney, with whom he continued to live until death closed his earthly career, which, it is thought, was hastened by a fall received by him on the Tuesday previous. He was the father of eight honored and respected children, five of whom survive him, being George of Wilton, Ia., Miles of Bay City, Oregon, James and Mrs. Caroline Jones of Riley, and Mrs. James Keeney of St. Johns. While a resident of Litchfield he united with the Congregational church, and on coming to this county at an early day, there was no organized body of this religious faith near by, and owing to his gradually failing and feeble health, he had attended religious services but comparatively little, however, he was what may properly be termed a good man. He always did the right thing by his family and his neighbors, and now they bless his memory.

DeWitt - Bath Review 12-5-88

Marshall C. Warren

Marshall C. Warren, 78, of DeWitt died Nov. 21, 1988, in Lansing.

Mr. Warren was born on Feb. 19, 1910, in Omer. He was a member of Redeemer United Methodist Church, a life member and Past Master of DeWitt Lodge No. 272 F&AM, Past Patron of DeWitt Chapter No. 30 OES, and Grand Blanc Chapter No. 507 OES, a member of the DeWitt Board of Education for several years, and a member of the Lansing High Twelve Club.

He was employed at Farm Bureau Service for 28 years; last position was in accounts payable.

Survivors include his wife, Celia I., they were married Dec. 8, 1932; five children, Clare (June) of Chelsea, Robert (Mary) of Fenton, Esther (Dale) Alderman of Fenton, Allen (Jean) of Ashville, N.C., and Duane (Diane) of Holt; 14 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Gerald.

Services were Nov. 23 at Redeemer United Methodist Church with the Rev. Rodney J. Kalajainen, pastor, officiating. Graveside services were at Evergreen Cemetery, Grand Blanc. Masonic services were provided at Gorsline-Runciman DeWitt Chapel by the DeWitt Lodge No. 272 F&AM on Nov. 22.

Casketbearers were Mr. Warren's grandsons.

Contributions may be made to Redeemer United Methodist Church in memory of Marshall C. Warren.

Waltz

Olive Couple

Speak Vows

June 1940

Letha Bullard and
Clarence Waltz Are
United Saturday

A well known young couple was united Saturday, June 15, when Miss Letha P. Bullard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bullard, and Clarence P. Waltz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Waltz, both of Olive township, spoke their nuptial vows. The ring service was read by Rev. Earl F. Collins at four o'clock in the Congregational manse.

The bride was attractive in a dusty rose ensemble, accented by white and dubonnet accessories. With this she wore a corsage of rosebuds and snapdragons.

Her bridesmaid, Miss Adeline Spaulding, was gowned in Nile green and wore a corsage like that of the bride's. The bridegroom was attended by Norman J. Geller, as best man.

Following the ceremony a wedding dinner was served the bridal party at the Lone Elm. In the evening about 150 relatives and friends attended a reception in their honor at Olive Grange Hall. Colorful bouquets of seasonal flowers were used in profusion about the hall and dining room. The guests were entertained by little Carol Ann Guggemus of Lansing who played two fine selections on the accordion. The evening was spent in dancing, after which refreshments were served. The newlyweds were the recipients of many lovely gifts.

Upon their return from a trip through northern Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Waltz will reside on a farm in Olive township.

The bride graduated from St. Johns high school, after which she attended Central State Teachers College, Mt. Pleasant. She taught one year in Rochester and during the past five years in Lansing. The bridegroom has been employed at the Motor Wheel factory in Lansing for several years.

Letha Bullard Feted By Dinner Party

The Capital City Inn, in Lansing, was the scene of a lovely dinner party Wednesday evening honoring Miss Letha Bullard, a June bride. Miss Nina Struble, of the Kalamazoo street school, was hostess, assisted by seven other teachers who Miss Bullard has worked with while teaching in Lansing.

The centerpiece was a lovely arrangement of spring flowers in pastel shades. Bridge was in play with Mrs. May Brewster winning high honors. The prize, together with a lovely candlewick bedspread from the guests, was presented to the bride-elect.

Miscellaneous Shower

Fetes Letha Bullard

Miss Letha Bullard was complimented by a lovely pre-nuptial affair on Saturday evening, June 1. Mrs. Justin Eaton was hostess to 20 relatives and friends at a miscellaneous shower at her home.

Five tables of bridge were in play with high honors going to Alice Cressman, the traveling prize to Mrs. Paul Bullard and consolation to Annie Kus. Colorful bouquets of spring flowers were used in profusion about the rooms. Guests were present from Williamston, Lansing, Owosso, St. Johns and vicinity.

Ice cream and cake were served by the hostess. Miss Bullard was presented with many lovely gifts.

Wandel

OBITUARY NOTICES.

Mrs. John Wandel.

Mrs. John Wandel died at her home in Riley Tuesday, June 28, 1904, after an illness of three weeks of paralysis.

Miss Harriet Park was born July 14, 1831 in Homer, Medina county, Ohio. She was the first white child born in the township of Homer and was the last one of a family of ten children, all living to old age. She was married April 8, 1856 to John Wandel. In 1851 they came to Michigan and settled on the farm where she lived at the time of her death.

Besides her husband the deceased leaves five children and three grandchildren, William Wandel, of Bennington, Mich., Mary Plowman, of Bengal, Frank, Sarah and Katherine living at home. They were all with her when she died.

Mrs. Wandel has been a Christian for years although being deprived of attending public services on account of feeble health. All through her sickness she never complained, showing her ever sweet, patient disposition to the last.

The funeral services were held at the family residence Friday July 1 at 10 A. M., Rev. Northrup officiating. Interment was made in St. Johns cemetery.

Ward

Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Ward
and

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hine
request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their children

Denise Ann

and

Jay Dee

on Saturday, the second of May
nineteen hundred and eighty-one
at four o'clock

Redeemer United Methodist Church

Schavey Road

DeWitt, Michigan

Reception at seven o'clock

DeWitt Memorial Building

206 West Washington

Waters

Former St. Johns Man Dies; Rites Held Here Today

Frank Waters passed away at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Perry Aldrich of Lansing, May 12, 1930. He was born in Olive, Clinton county, Aug. 10, 1862. He lived in St. Johns 8 years at one time, going from here to North Star where he was hotel keeper for 16 years. For the past 9 years he had resided in Mt. Pleasant.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Waters, two daughters, Mrs. Percy Aldrich and Mrs. Elizabeth Lott of Lansing, and Frank Waters, Jr., of Perry; seven grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. George Cross of Alma, and one foster sister, Mrs. Robert Wardrup of Mt. Pleasant. He was a member of the St. Johns I. O. O. F. for 40 years. Prayer service was held at the home of the daughter at noon today and the funeral was conducted at the Ebert Funeral Home at 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon, Rev. St. H. Dull officiated. Burial at Mt. Rest.

Watson

Ralph Watson was born in 1828, near Lockport, New York. At the age of seven he was an orphan and the family was scattered, Ralph going to Canada. There he lived until he reached the age of eighteen when he returned to New York. He worked for some time as steersman on a packet boat on the Erie canal, and later learned the tanner's trade at Eastman's tannery in Lockport. Later he was for some years foreman of a large tannery in Canada. He was married in 1852 to Julia A. Patterson and desiring that the children born to them should be natural born citizens of the United States and not British subjects, he returned again to the state of his birth and became foreman of a large tannery there. Being obliged by failing health to give up the tanner's trade, he invested his savings in land in the township of Riley, Clinton county, Michigan, moving on to the same, then a mile from any road, in the forest, in the fall of 1854. Here he lived until June 1900 when he came to live with his son Seymour in St. Johns. About this time heart trouble with which he had been afflicted for years resulted in cardiac dropsy from which he died Monday, November 5.

His father invented and operated the dredge which solved the problem of digging the Erie canal through a long stretch of quicksand land. His brother William was many years a government scout in the wild West, knowing well the famous Kit Carson. His other brother, the late Augustus Watson, of Washington, D. C., was the inventor of the ready-stamped envelopes and paper wrappers now in use in our own and other nations; and the originator of the idea of a government weather bureau from which has developed our present signal service. Deceased's opportunities for education were limited, his schooling consisting of three winter terms in a country school; but being a student by nature, he became well versed in history, and up to the hour of his death took a vital interest in public affairs. He was the father of six children, three of whom are living, Ralph T., of Alliance, Nebraska, Seymour D., of St. Johns, and Ira A., of DeWitt. The funeral was held today in South Riley and his body laid to rest in South Riley cemetery.

1900

Watson

DEATH OF HUGH WATSON

After a Brief Illness of Only One Week.

Hugh Watson, of Riley, died at the home of Mrs. Merritt Temple, November 3d, of typhoid fever, aged 41 years. He had recently returned from the north, where he went to get rid of hay fever, and was preparing to build a house on his farm in Duplain, where he intended to make his home. He was only sick one week. After Mr. Watson had been sick three days he thought he was in the other world, and described its beauty to his devoted wife, telling of the people he saw there and sent a message to his sister to be firm in her religious faith. He also sent a message to his brother. Deceased was a member of the M. E. church of Riley. Funeral services were held in Riley and Duplain, Rev. Wm. Doty, of Wacousta, officiating. Mr. Watson was highly esteemed by all who knew him, and his untimely death was a shock to the community.

MEMORIAM

Friday morning, April 6, 1928, ten minutes to 11 o'clock the clouds hovered over an April sky timidly, like shadows upon innocence as the spirit of August Watt passed to the great beyond—just as the first rootlet of grass lifted its green blade from the matted debris of the old year's decay.

Mr. Watt was born in Stolp, Germany, March 12, 1857, and when nine years of age he came to this country with his parents, Charles and Charlotte Watt, and located on a farm at Clyde, Ohio. On April 5, 1881, he was married to Martha Liphart at Sandusky, Ohio. In the spring of 1882, March 8, they came to Michigan and settled in Olive township. On the 4th of March, 1918, they came to the village of Dewitt where they continued to reside. Mr. Watt was always a devout Christian, a member of the Methodist church and one of the executive board at the time of his death, also a member of the Riley-Olive Farmers club.

What is sunlight worth if clouds do not sometime hide the brightness; what is spring or summer, if the lessons of the chilling winter do not teach us the story of their warmth.

Mr. Watt has lived long and joyously with the dear one who has helped to make his life a Holy pilgrimage. As he was nearing the end, his calm eye looking upward seemed to show no fear. Thus we have the assurance—when the soul of such men die they are as sunbeams lifted high.

August Watt leaves behind him the noble influence of a life spent unselfishly and gladly for the best good of others. Besides the widow he is survived by a son, Clarence Watt of Lansing, three daughters, Mrs. Minnie Jones of California; Mrs. Lillian Brooks and Mrs. Lavinia Zischke, of Dewitt; one sister, Mrs. Henrietta Britenburg of Clyde, Ohio; also 7 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

"His spirit was wafted gently to the haven of peace and love, to repose on the bosom of God."

The funeral was held in the Dewitt Baptist church Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. D. A. Rood of Orleans, Michigan, a former pastor officiated, assisted by Rev. William C. Coleman and Rev. George Wahl of Dewitt.

Watt

4-19-1928
CCR-New

Watt

Funeral Cards from the Scrapbook of C. Harry Moon

Now owned by Eleanor Moon McKinney (1984)

Martha Elizabeth Watt- Setp. 8, 1859 - Sept. 5, 1945
DeWitt Methodist Church, Sept. 7, 1945 2:00 p.m.
Rev. Earl Carpenter, DeWitt Cemetery
Pallbearers: Paul Shafley, John Voltz, Herman Lietzke,
George Potter, Charley Lemm, Earl Strahle.

Newspaper clipping-

A very pretty wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Linn November 27th, 1913, when Bessie, only daughter of B. S. Webb, was united in marriage to their son, Dyle J. The bride was beautifully gowned in white crepe meteor draped in lace and carried bride's roses. She was attended by Mrs. Byrl Scott, sister of the groom. The groom wore the conventional black and Bert Scott, his brother-in-law, acted as best man. An altar was formed in one corner of the room decorated with foliage and pink tea roses over which was suspended a cupid which held the flowers draping the corners.

The bridal party took their places at 8 o'clock p.m. and the ring ceremony was read by Rev. G. T. Fisher of the M. E. church in the presence of only the very immediate relatives, after which very dainty refreshments of which the wedding cake was prominent, was served. The bride is a talented musician and a very popular and much respected young lady of this place. The groom is a partner of the Scott & Linn hardware. They will reside with the bride's father on West Main St. The happy couple took a trip to Detroit. The many friends of Mr. & Mrs. Linn wish them joy and happiness.

The Republican.

Thursday, March 3, 1892.

ADDITIONAL COUNTY.

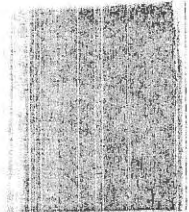
Friday evening a very pleasant party took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Scott, in DeWitt. The party was gotten up in honor of the 20th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Webb, of DeWitt. It was a surprise for them and for that reason Mrs. Scott opened her pleasant house and Mr. and Mrs. Webb were invited there to spend the evening. When they arrived about fifty of their neighbors and friends were assembled there. Mrs. Scott, in behalf of Archie, Alexander (nephew of Mrs. Webb) presented them with a beautiful set of after dinner coffees. They were china and very delicate. They also received six china fruit plates and six china cups and saucers from the company. The guests were served with choice refreshments by the young ladies present. It was an evening that will long be remembered by all that participated in its pleasures. The following was composed and read by Mrs. Mary G. Scott: "Just 20 years ago to-day a pleasant company assembled at the home of Mrs. Celia Alexander in DeWitt to witness the marriage of Miss Lizzie Scott to Edward M. Webb. They were both born in the town of DeWitt and within a mile of each other. Miss Scott was a grand-daughter of David Scott Sr., the first settler in Clinton county. I will say that the groom put in many years saying sweet things to other fair ladies and was fascinating in manner and honorable in every way, but after a time the red cheeks and raven locks of Miss Lizzie captivated him although several years her senior. They were married early in the day, Charles Dills and Miss Celia Alexander (now Mrs. Chas. Dills) stood up with them, and the Rev. Mr. Colburn, Clinton county's pioneer preacher, performed the ceremony. After the wedding breakfast which followed had been blessed by that venerable divine they began their repast. In their haste to reach Lansing in time for the train which was to bear them on their bridal tour (Detroit and Salem) they ate hurriedly and sparingly, but those from a distance, Lawyer Wiley and wife and others, enjoyed the feast. Furthermore I will say that to-day I have made a loaf cake like that made 20 years ago to-day. The lapse of time has touched the groom but lightly, there being no silver threads among the gold, while the bride has the gray—the mother's crown of beauty. As memory reverts back I will ask where are the majority of those guests? Echo answers where. Their hands have been folded for years; their work laid aside for others to finish; their virtues to emulate. They are at rest and now are we doing all we can for our families and for humanity, or are we working for self and the mighty dollar? Let us by example and education give those who will take our place broader views of life, surround them with a more refined and elevated home atmosphere that they may be able to fill positions of trust with honor."

NONSENSE.

Webb

WM. W. WEBB, a pioneer of DeWitt, died May 12, 1881, aged 75 years. Mr. Webb purchased the southwest quarter of Sec. 6, in 1835, and moved with his family on the same in 1836, where he has lived to the date of his death. He was an honest, upright man, filling various positions of trust in the township. Many of the pioneers of the early days of Clinton county will attest to his willingness to assist those in need and distress.

REV. H. P. BUCKER died at his home in Victor township, May 15, 1881, in



Esther Uttley was born in Land Grove, Vermont, August 18th, 1816. In 1820 she accompanied her parents to New York. In 1829 she moved to Wayne Co., Mich. In 1835 she married William Webb and moved to DeWitt township, where she has ever since resided. Mr. and Mrs. Webb were the fourth family to settle in DeWitt. They purchased 170 acres on section 6. This land was an entire wilderness, but by perseverance and patience in overcoming difficulties so well known to the early pioneers, they soon had a beautiful farm home. Five children were born to them, one daughter, Mrs. Geo. Scott, with whom she lived, two sons, E. M. Webb, of DeWitt, Byron Webb, of Alma, Mich., survive her. Mr. Webb passed away in 1881. Mrs. Webb was a friend to all and truly a friend we need. No needy ones ever turned from her door empty handed. Her faith was strong in the universal salvation of all, she believed that some where and some time the whole human family would be reunited, where tears and partings are no more. She passed from this life July, 29th, 1900. Truly we may say of her, she hath done what she could and the world is better for her having lived in it. Her funeral was held at her late home July 31st, 1900, Rev. Bard, of Lansing, officiating; interment in DeWitt cemetery.

She has gone to join the loved ones,
In the world that's free from pain
Though we miss her, sadly miss her
Yet our loss is her great gain.

She has met a joyous welcome,
Crown immortal on her brow,
Yet we're weeping, sadly weeping,
For we have no mother now.

No more she'll watch us from the window,
No more meet us at the door,
But we always shall remember
Smiles of welcome that she wore.

Webb

PROMINENT DEWITT MAN DEAD

NEWTON L. WEBB PASSED AWAY
SATURDAY MORNING.

DeWitt lost one of its best citizens Saturday morning when Newton L. Webb passed away. He had been in failing health for three years, but cirrhosis of the liver was the cause of death.

Mr. Webb came to DeWitt in 1872 and regularly took a large part in affairs. He was a strict Democrat in politics and an efficient man in all positions. He was a charter member of the DeWitt Grange and filled practically every position in the organization, and was also a member of the Pomona. For thirteen years he was a director of the Clinton County Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. He was a member of the Pioneer Society.

Newton L. Webb was born in Otis, Berkshire county, Mass., March 25, 1840, and at the age of eight years went to Wayne county, New York. He was married March 1, 1863, to Phoebe Huyck and in 1872 they came to this section. He leaves his wife and one son, Henry M. Webb, who lives on the home farm near the village; three brothers in Massachusetts and two sisters in New York. He leaves two sisters in Michigan Mrs. Phoebe Swarthout of Laingsburg and Mrs. Charles Chapin of Victor.

The funeral services were held at the home at 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and additional services were held at the M. E. church.

St. Johns News

4-4-1907

306

Foremost Design
Old Mill Property

Одъбави

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MRS. WEBB DEAD

Was Granddaughter of Mr. Scott,
First Settler in DeWitt.

Eunice Eliza Webb, whose maiden name was Scott, died in Lansing at 2 a. m., November 8. She was born on a farm about one mile southwest of DeWitt and lived there for most of her life. She was married to E. M. Webb, who passed away about seven years ago. Three children survive her, Charles M. Webb, postmaster at DeWitt, Frank Webb of Lansing, and Mrs. Floyd Williams of DeWitt. Mrs. Webb had been ill since last May and had been in Lansing for treatment. She was 68 years old last July.

Webb

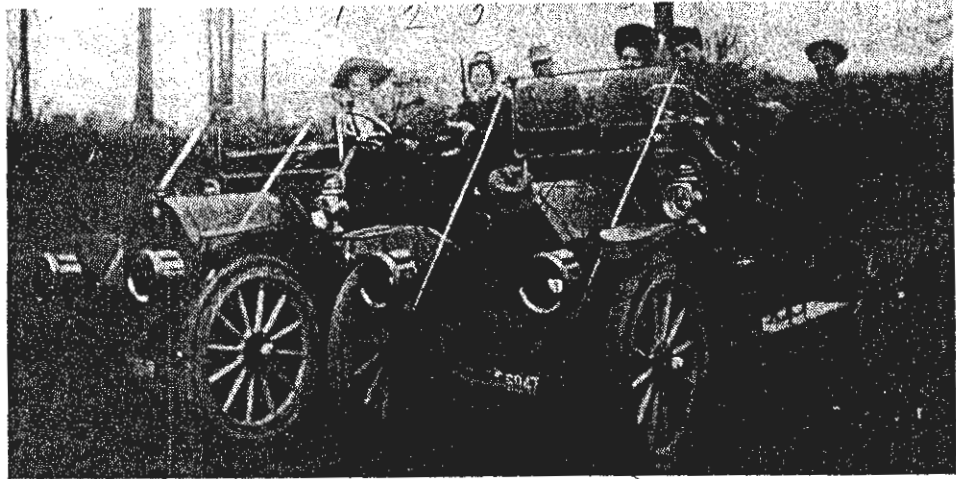
Married at the residence of Mr. Carpenter, in East Olive, December 25, by Rev. Mr. Squares, of Laingsburg, Jennie Webb, of Olive, to Fred Rickerd, of Lake View. Several invited guests were present and presented Mr. and Mrs. Rickerd with beautiful presents. A sumptuous dinner was served to all.

St. Johns Rep.

1-4-1894

DeWitt remembered:

Webb



ROAD TRIP - Ca. 1915. Dyle Linn photographer.

1910 Reo's
Model 4

Photo courtesy of Don Harnish

The automobile changed DeWitt like nothing else

KEN COIN

Among the hundreds of photographs recently donated to the library by Don Harnish, this one stands out among my personal favorites. It is a perfect illustration of a new generation embarking on a new age; the age of the automobile. Nothing had an impact on the structure of DeWitt which matched the introduction of automobiles.

Dyle Linn, the photographer, is generally regarded as DeWitt's first auto dealer. He opened his Ford garage about 1914, possibly in conjunction with his father's livery and feed barn. He remained in business until 1920 when he sold out to a partnership under the name of Pennell and Coverdale.

But let's not spend any more time talking business history - let's gossip a minute about the names and faces. The big hat identified as #1 in the picture rests atop Reva Treadwell, the original owner of this picture. She's the one responsible for writing the numbers on the face of the picture. A daughter of Charles and May Dunham) Treadwell, she later married a DeWitt fella, Jack "Ray" Derham, a young lawyer from Corunna who had come to DeWitt to practice law but worked at the post office to earn a living. He later distinguished himself in two world wars and was, for a time, a state legislator. Not wishing to remain big fish in a little pond, they followed the bright lights to become littler fish in a much bigger pond.

Number 2 Lawrence Woodruff and his sister Lorna (#5) were children of Clayton and Clara (Lorenz) Woodruff. Their father was the town banker, so nice auto's quickly became a way of life. I don't have any good gossip about Lawrence or Lorna, (they've got too many relatives in the area for me to repeat it if I did) but I do have one "pearl" relating to Lawrence's wife, Elsie. Years ago DeWitt's social scene consisted of town dances. At one particular dance at the Grange Hall my grandfather, who evidently had not been told that there was national prohibition on alcohol, had about two too many. He asked Elsie for a whirl around the floor but imagine her surprise when he began teaching her how to do the Black Bottom! What an unfortunate situation. Poor Elsie: How could she ever explain this spectacle next Tuesday at the DeWitt Women's (and molded Jello) Club. Poor grandpa: don't think for a minute that grandma wouldn't hold this little social faux pas against him for the rest of his life.

Number 3 Hazel Bray is one of those people who could probably be noted as "ahead of her

time". That is unfortunate because I think she was right on cue. She was a professional woman who never married and had a career in Lansing. She lived in a big house on the corner of Madison and Franklin and day after day, smartly decked, she would drive to her office in Lansing. For years DeWitt housewives with four loads of laundry already on the line and a sink full of greasy breakfast dishes to wash would look out their windows with the corners of their mouth turned down and say to themselves, "There goes Hazel, poor woman, hasn't got a living soul to be subservient to." About 40 years ago she retired and moved to Lansing. She died only a few years back, over 100 years old.

Number 4 Fred Vail went into partnership with Del Rose prior to 1920 to form the Rosevale Packing Co.

Number 6 John Hunt's family owned the drug store at the southeast corner of Main and Bridge prior to the Brooks family.

Number 7 Bessie Webb was among the last of Capt. Scott's descendants to live in DeWitt. After her marriage to Dyle Linn, they began building the house on Scott street which is now owned by Ted and Cathy Mitchell. (It was, coincidentally, only a few feet from where her great-grandparents had built DeWitt's first log cabin in 1833.) But the Linns' left DeWitt to follow their dream to Hollywood. Dyle's dream was not to become a movie star but to become a furnaceman to the stars with his brother-in-law Bert Scott. It was the Linn's twin sons Carol and Traverse who had visions of stardom: Billed under the singular (and clever) stage name "The Linn Twins", their short career consisted of a bit part (actually two bit parts, if you'll pardon the pun) in an RKO western that I had never heard of and forgot the name anyway. Ralph Woodruff saw it and told me he liked it, but only because it had Andy DeVine in it.

Who would have ever imagined, Capt. David Scott's offspring sharing the silver screen (if only for a moment) with Andy DeVine. Just goes to show what the automobile age has done for DeWitt history.

Ken Coin is a DeWitt resident and the area's primary historian.