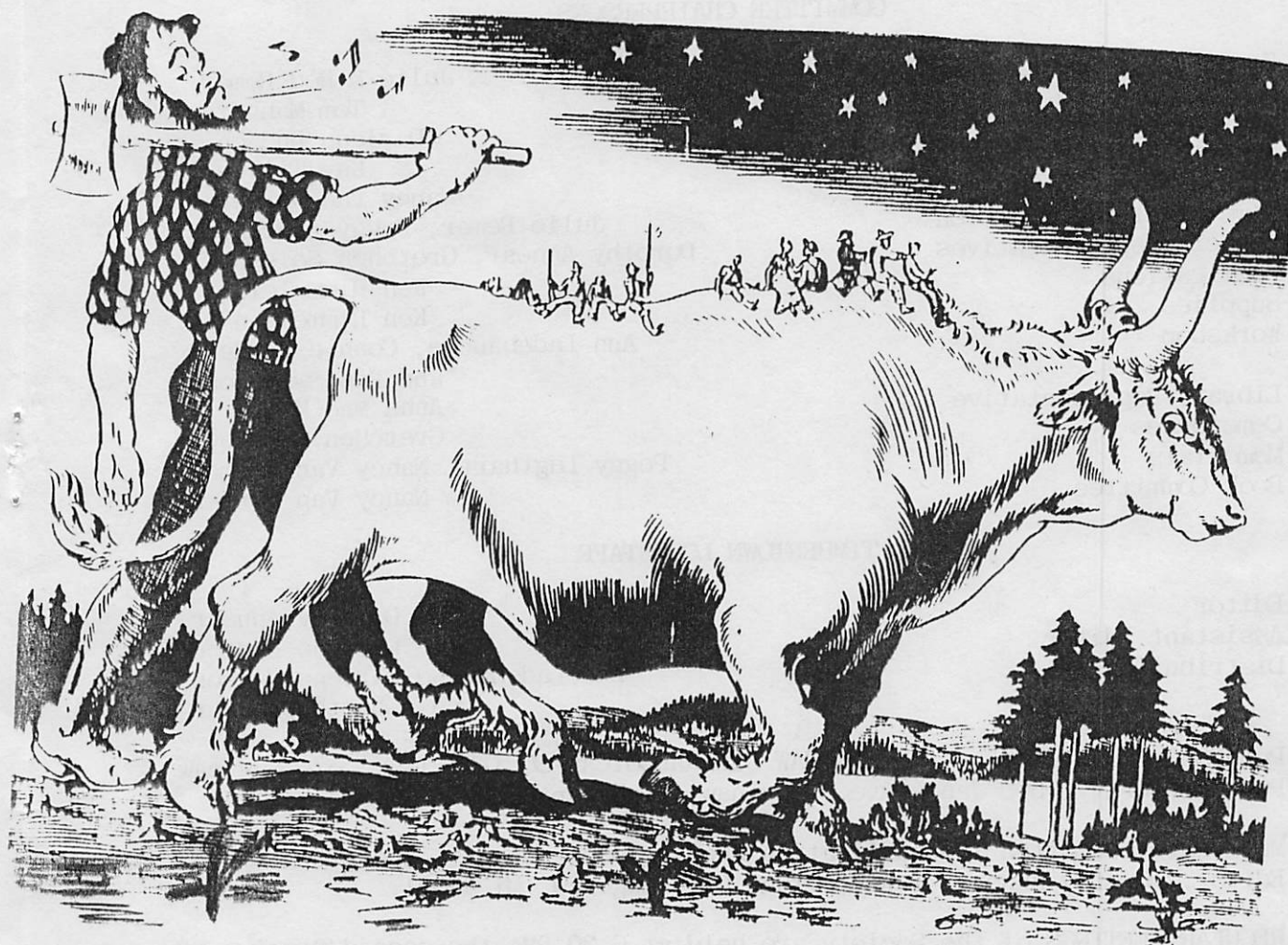


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1996 - 1997

# SAGINAW GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



## TIMBERTOWN LOG

Volume 25 Issue 2

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# TIMBERTOWN LOG

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SAGINAW NEWS, SUNDAY, MAY 29, 1966

## JONESFIELD TOWNSHIP - HISTORY TRACED TO 1812

Mrs. Edward Jones, Area's First Resident, Lived to be 107

MERRILL - The history of Merrill and Jonesfield Township in Saginaw County stretches back to the War of 1812 and before.

**With a tip from Merrill's history buff, 86-year-old Miss Elizabeth Sweeney, 315 E. Saginaw Road (M-46) and research through old newspapers and contributions from members of the family, the thin trail left by the first inhabitants of Jonesfield Township - Mr. and Mrs. Edward (Johnny) Jones Sr. - has been traced.**

Some of the people, dates and facts may seem unusual because they contradict history books.

Assisting in the research were Miss Sweeney, Mrs. Dana Skeen, 10770 N. Wheeler Road, Wheeler, a great-granddaughter of the pioneers; Walter M. Jones Jr., 215 Rumsey Road, Lansing, a great-grandson and Mrs. Skeen's brother, and Mrs. Allen Jones, 613 Center, Clio, an elementary school teacher who married a great-grandson.

"In Detroit Aug. 16, 1812, American Gen. William Hull, caught below strength when he sent units out to hurry "reinforcements" and taunted by British Gen. Isaac Brock's threat that his Indian allies would be 'beyond my control the moment the contest commences' gave up the fort at Detroit without a serious struggle.

**A 6-year old, half-French, half-Indian girl named Catherine DuForce - who was to live more than 100 years and become the first white settler in Jonesfield Township - was was at the fort. She had been born Sept. 15, 1805, the daughter of Peter DuForce and his Indian wife, and had lived all her life along the Detroit River.**

In a story written by the late James Sweinhart and printed April 25, 1905, in the Saginaw Semi-Weekly News, Catherine (then 90 years old) was quoted as saying:

'One night in summer I and my sister in bed. My sister sleep, but I awake. I hear my mother call fadder. "To the door, Peter, to the door". Someone knock. I think the Indian come and I cry. I hear great noise cross the river.

Next morning, I get up an look out the window. All the bank on the Canada side lined with soldier. My dear boy (she is speaking to Sweinhart), how fine they look all in their red suits. Six o'clock come. They draw up cannon and fire at the fort.

**Then fadder come, pick us all up and hurry to the woods. After a time the soldier go away. Pretty soon they back again, cross the river and go straight to the fort.**

The officer come out and talk long while. A white flag is on the fort. Pretty soon they take it down and the red English flag is put up. Then all the blue-coats march out and the red-coats march in, and fadder tell us the fort is surrender and we stay no longer."

In a story in The Saginaw Evening News Oct. 23, 1910, when Catherine was 105 and was living in the Sisters of Mercy Catholic Hospital in Big Rapids, she was quoted as saying:

"I well remember Detroit when it was but an Indian village. My parents owned a little hut near the river. In those days, I often waded in the river. The Indians were still savage and I often ran from the river up to the house for fear of harm from them. Scalping was not uncommon, and it was the fear of my life that my scalp would grace one of their poles."

**In Sweinhart's writings of the future wife of the first white settler of Jonesfield Township, the French-Indian accent of Catherine flavors his printed quotes. About Ft. Detroit, she is quoted as saying:**

"Behing on a hill, the fort; here a row of huts made of mud and log, five, six, seven, and before us ran la river. . . . Dol I remember the fort? Oh, yes, my good child. She stood high back upon the hill. I knew it well.

On Sunday, my fadder take my han' in his and take me up by the fort. An' my auntie she take me to the fort. She know the officer. One day we walk by. All around the fort was a fence of cedar posts. I peek through the crack. Mon Dieu, good child, they hang a young soldier. And he so young and tall and straight. My, I hate to see dat. I run away home."

Soon after the fall of the fort, Catherine's mother died. Catherine's father left her with her grandmother for safekeeping while he went to work in the woods near Port Huron. Catherine's grandmothe, "being old," passed her on to a "fine family . . . they good to me."

"When I grow up I go back to Detroit. In those days, there was a hotel named 'The Eagle' and I work dere (as a cook). Den after long time I get married. I 29 year old." (All during her story to Sweinhart and reportedly all during her life, Catherine fondly referred to her huysband as "Johnny." He also was 29 when they were married.)

"My fadder get married too, same year, and I never see him again. My man his name John Jones. He came over from England (actually Wales) in 1832 and two year later we get married."

In a history book about the Eagle Hotel in the Burton Library in Detroit, reference is made to Catherine as being a cook. The restaurant was built in 1830 on the south side of Woodbridge Street in Detroit near Griswold. The book says the hotel was closed in 1865 and that it burned in 1866.

Records kept by Mrs. Jones in Clio reveal that Edward (Johnny) Jones Sr. was one of the 11 children of Mr. and Mrs. William Jones of Wales. They lived near the river Wye at the hamlet of Haye. His mother is unofficially reported as living until she was 112 years of age before dying in Haye.

**Edward Sr. was born March 10, 1805, in Wales, and is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery at Lewis and Tuscola Roads in the southeastern tip of Tuscola County. He was buried March 24, 1901. (He is believed to have died March 21 or March 22, 1901, at the age of 96 and is the only Jones buried in that Arbela Township cemetery.)**

In 1822, Edward went to Canada with two of his brothers to work. His two brothers soon returned to Wales. Edward started working aboard a boat that carried passengers from Buffalo to Detroit. He stayed at the Eagle Hotel in Detroit, where he met Catherine.

They were married in the hotel and lived short times in Detroit, Mount Clements and Dearborn areas before moving to the "Louis Gordon" farm on the Canadian side of the Detroit River. This where Nancy and Henry, the first of 11 children born to Edward and Catherine, were born.

According to Sweinhart, Catherine - later called "Granny" Jones - told of the trials she and "Johnny" underwent, traveling as a farmer and lumberjack to Canada and moving back to Detroit. Sweinhart's story says the Jones family lived in Canada for about 20 years (until about 1854).

**"One day we decide we go to Gran' Rapids to live and we start out with team and wagon. We go days and days tru da forest. Some places da road was cut tru, but in other we go straight into da woods.**

Well, one day we come to a place where the road part and we don't know which way to go. A man come along and we ask him which road go to Gran' Rapids. He point out da one to da left. We say "Tank you" and go on.

We travel many day more till one day, when da sun go down we come to a city. We think it Gran' Rapids and we so glad. But when we come to it and see it close, we know it not Gran' Rapids. It was Saginaw. My child, my man mad. We no come Saginaw anything. It bad town those day, my child. I angry yet at dat man who show us the wrong way."

She then told of her husband going to work in the mill and of family happiness:

"But city life no suit my man," Sweinhart quotes her as saying. "He like the country and woods. So one day we start out again to make our home with da birds in da forest. We drive our team westward many mile 'til we come to a good place."

**This "good place" eventually became Section 11 in Jonesfield Township and now is the southeastern corner of Dice and N. Merrill Roads.**

"Den we stake it out and go to da government (the Flint and Pere Marquette Railroad Co.) and have it give us (they leased it and never owned it). Da men come and sign da paper and we settle down. It was summer time. I have five lettles children (Edward Jr., William, Betsy, Walter and Thomas.)" Henry and Nancy had married and settled near the village of Tuscola.)

"Da first summer (1857), my man go away to the lumber camp on da Chippewa (near Mount Pleasant) and leave me all alone with my children. I alone all summer. We had a lettles log cabin

with only three wall. All summer I work on it and fill the cracks with clay and mud and make it warm for winter."

"The chimney I built of branches and mud and I remember how glad I was when da smoke first go up. One day, whole tribe of Injun come. There were a hundred twenty of them. They hunt around our cabin all summer and they grow to like us. My children play with the liddle Injun children and have a happy time."

"O child, but I love da woods. To live an hour among da pine and da hemlock is better to me dan to live years in da city. It is my home, my child. Dat summer I work awful hard. Near our cabin was lot of tree and I cut all away to make our garden."

"Saginaw was thirty mile away. Some time we get out of flour. Den I have to walk to Saginaw an get some. Ah, my boy, ma poor man do dat many and many a time."

"Pretty soon da leaves start to fall. Da autumn and den winter come. Game of every kind was plentiful and da streams were full of fish. Sometime in da long night we hear da bears go by our cabin. Da sun go down early and in the evenings we all set in a ring round da fireplace. When we get sleepy we roll up and go to sleep on da floor. Dat our bed."

"After a time our cornmeal begin to get short, and we have no flour. In winter time I cannot go to Saginaw and back in a day. The Injun gone long while and left us alone and I afraid to leave the children by themself."

"Den, ah den, my child, we egin to listen for the footstep of da fadder. Every day we watch da stream dat flow by our cabin and listen far into da night. One day da sun go down and all da sky was red as fire. Everything was dry, da tree an' branches above and the twigs on da ground."

"A liddle snow was on da tree. We all watch da sun as he sink down to sleep in a blaze of red fire. As we look suddenly we hear far away as it was a hundred mile, a cry, "Yoho! Yoho!" My child, how da warm blood run from ma ole heart. We listen."

"Again it come liddle louder, liddle clearer. "Eagle," say da baby (Thomas). "No," say Henry (she meant Edward Jr.), da oldest boy (he was 17), "It's fadder, fadder, fadder." An' it was. When it come again, I answer and it come nearer and nearer."

"Da sun been down an hour and it all twilight. We had da fire heaped high. Da fire shown bright and warm and made da spur on da evergreen glisten, and we all stand round da door as da dark night settle down. Soon we hear a step and in come da fadder with flour and other things we wish for so long."

"We 'fraid no longer and dat night we all happy as da birds. So it went, ma child. Da children grow up and go to da woods and some go onto da lake as sailor. Den after long time, after da country all round us all get cleared up, my ole man and I tink we leave da farm. An, ma child, dat was da wrong step."

"We have eighty acre, as nice land as in da country, but we not content. We leave it. Few years later da ole man die (1901) and tofday I all alone. But child, I no unhappy. It always best to be cheerful and so I am. I goin' to live a few more years, den da good Lord take me to my ole man, who is waitin' for me."

Sweinhart went on to say: "That is the way she will tell you the romantic story of her years. In the 70 years (actually 67) which she was married, she gave to the world 11 children, 4 of whom are dead and the rest have lived to be strong men and women.

"Sixty years (actually 51) ago, when she and her husband went into the locality of the present village of Merrill, all the country round was a vast wilderness. In it they made their home, overcoming the terrible obstacles which would have frightened less sturdy hearts with a courage that was inherent, not made.

**"Her life in the forest gave her a constitution that has withstood the attack of increasing years with wonderful strength. In the vicinity of Merrill she is known for miles round. When the locality became more thickly settled, the township was formed (1871) and it was called Jonesfield in honor of Edward and Catherine."**

"Her days are far gone: she will not last long. Yet, while she lives (seven more years), she is one last reminder of the hardy, fearless people from which our fathers sprang."

Catherine's death notice came in the Big Rapids Bulletin Herald Sept. 6, 1912. She died Sept. 5, just 10 days short of her 107th birthday. The notice said:

"In the death yesterday afternoonat Mercy Hospital of Mrs. Katherine (Catherine) Jones, the State of Michigan lost its oldest native inhabitant. She was 106 years, 11 months, and 17 days (actually 20 days), and despite the ravages of time, she retained remarkable physical vitality and a wonderfully clear memory.

The body was shipped to Hungerford this afternoon and funeral services will be held tomorrow afternoon at the Hungerford church. Interment will be in Hungerford." (She was buried in Hungerford Cemetery near Woodville, about seven miles west of Big rapids.)

Article submitted by Nancy E. Van Wormer, **Newsletter** Editor.



## PASSENGER SHIP LIST

BRIG EDWARD .....CAPTAIN W. C. BULKLEY

ARRIVED NEW YORK CITY July 24, 1843 from HAMBURG

355 Tons  
- - - - -

## Name , Age, Birthplace:

Lewis, Plout	29	Birmingham
Mrs. Lewis Plout	24	Germany
Karl F. BRAASH (BRAASCH)	58	New Massow
Charlotte M. BRAASH	66?	New Massow'
Wilhelm F.F. BRAASH	29	New Massow
Karl BRAASH	8	New Massow
Karl Ludwig H. BRAASH	25	New Massow
Frederick W. J. BRAASH	22	New Massow
John G. R. BRAASH	20	New Massow
Frederick BRAASH	5	New Massow
Frederick KLIESE	30	Altmanstate
Mrs. Juliane KLIESE	28	Hermannsthal
August F. KLIESE	4	Hermannsthal
Bertha F. KLIESE	2	Hermannsthal
Ludwig E. KLIESE	1	Hermannsthal
Christian E. KLIESE	75	Hermannsthal
John F. BRAASH (BRAASCH)	36	Hackenwald
Johannah K. BRAASH	28	Hackenwald
Hannah C. BRAASH	3/4	yr. Hackenwald
Frederick SELL	21	Maskow
Joachim KRÜGER	52	Fanger
Karoline "	42	Fanger
Wilhelmine K. F. "	18	Fanger
Fredericke D. C. "	16	Fanger
Karl Wilhelm "	12	Fanger
Karoline F. "	9	Fanger
John Friedrich "	6	Fanger
Carl F. August "	3	Fanger
Luise Auguste "	1/2	Fanger
John Chrisliebe LEMCKE	58	Hackenwalde
Christina LEMCKE	55	Hackenwalde
Karoline G. W. "	24	Hackenwalde
Karolina S. W. "	18	Hackenwalde
Willhimine K. F. "	16	Hackenwalde
John G. BLIESNER	42	Fanger
Mrs. GOTTLIEBE	52	Fanger
John G. RABINHORST	18	Fanger
John D. HOFFMASTER		
(HOFFMEISTER)	37	Hackenwald
Mrs. Anna R. HOFFMASTER	52	Hackenwald
Christina HOFFMASTER	31	Hackenwald

Augustine HOFFMASTER	20	Hackenwald
Karl HOFFMASTER	14	Hackenwald
Hannah HOFFMASTER	11	Hackenwald
David HOFFMASTER	6	Hackenwald
August R. HOFFMASTER	8	Hackenwald
Henry DUTCH	45	Medewitz
Karoline	45	Medewitz
Johanna	19	Medewitz
August	15	Medewitz
Karoline	12	Medewitz
Wilhelmine	10	Medewitz
Luisa	5	Medewitz
Gottlieb	2	Medewitz
John ZUHLKE (ZUEHLKE)	39	Gollnow
Anna	35	Gollnow
Friderick	13	"
August	12	"
Karoline	10	"
Wilhelmine	8	"
Karl	3	"
Anna	6	"
Emilie	1/4	"
John D. METTECK		
(METTICH)		
(UTTECH)		
Karoline METTECK	42	Fanger
Karl Frederick	28	"
Wilhelmine F.	11	"
Karoline F.	5	"
Fredericke J.	3	"
John Herman	1	"
John M. RATH (KORTH)	58	Braschendorf
Maria RATH	54	"
Ludwick	21	"
Ferdinand	19	"
Wilhemene	14	"
Fredericke	10	"
Karl	6	"
Ludwick VOLLBRECHT		
(VOLLBRECHT)		
Maria Vollbecht	34	Ibenhorst
Emilie	11	"
Albertine	9	"
Ernestine	7	"
Hannah	5	"
Henry WERNER	49	Medewitz
Karoline WERNER	30	"
Edward (Erdmann)	4	"
Auguste WERNER	2	"
Louisa (Luise) WERNER	1	"

# Brig Edward

John HILEY (SCHLEY)	46	Ibenhorst
Charlotte HILEY	41	"
Amelia (Emilie A. "	18	"
John Gottlieb	12	"
W. Frederick	9	"
Karl David	7	"
Henry C.	5	"
Frederick M.	2	"

Frederick CHRISTIAN	50	Alt Damerow
Doratheia	40	"
Gottlieb	20	"
Frederick	19	"
Charlotte	17	"
August	14	"
Louisa	9	"
William	8	"
Karl	7	"
Augustine	5	"
Elisabeth	3	"
Herman	2	"

William SCHULTZ	44	Trechel
Johanna	35	"
Frederick	14	"
Ernestine	9	"

John F. GOTSCH (GOTSCH) (GOETSCH)	31	Maskow
Karoline GOTSCH	23	"
Ernestine C. "	3	"
W. Frederick "	3/4	"
Ernst Henrick (Heinrich)"	66	"
Christliebe "	60	"

John F. TIMMEL (YIMMEL)	42	Friedrichsberg
Maria L. TIMMEL	40	"
August "	9	"
Augustine "	6	"
John "	3	"

Martin F. YAGER (JAGER)	56	Maskow
Dorothea L. YAGER	54	Maskow
Fredericke L. "	19	"
Wilhelm F. "	17	"

Martina PRAG	21	Warsaw POD
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# Brig Edward

John C. FRICKET	37	North Prusia
(frickert)		
Willhemena FRICKET	35	North Prusia
Willhemena E. "	11	North Prusia
C. J. LA FREY	26	Halstem
Peter FORST	28	Halstem
Isaac HERBURG	20	Bavaria
GETTA HERBURG	28	Bavaria
Getta Schinser	30	Bavaria
George MINGA	54	Brussia
Dorothea "	53	"
Mrs. Doratha SEWER	22	Poland
Michael "	2	"
Dobba "	1	"
Carl JACOBIA	26	Frankfort
Aits ROKHS	38	Hamburg

END

NEW BOOKS IN THE EDDY ROOM

By ANNA MAE MADAY

All Library Purchases unless otherwise noted

- 929.3 T312 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MARRIAGES FROM EL PASO NEWSPAPERS THROUGH 1985
- R977.433 to (Mich Rm) WOODFORD Arthur M TONNANCOUR: LIFE IN GROSSE PTE AND ALONG THE SHORES OF LATE ST CLAIR
- R929.3 G296 ROCKER Willard R MARRIAGES AND OBITUARIES FROM THE MACON MESSENGER 1818-1965
- R929.3 A1 11 GANDRUD Pauline Jones MARRIAGE, DEATH AND LEGAL NOTICES FROM EARLY AL NEWSPAPERS 1819-1893
- R929.3 A1 11 GODFREY Marie H EARLY SETTLERS OF BARBOUR CO AL VOL I & II
- R929.3 G296 DAVIS Robert Scott THE GEORGIA BLACK BOOK BOL II
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- R929.3 In2 TOMBAUGH Jean C and Wendell C FULTON CO IN CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS volumes i - IV
- R929.3 N48 GLAZIER Ira A Editor MIGRATION FROM THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE VOLS I & II LISTS OF PASSENGERS ARRIVING AT THE PORT OF NY
- R929.3 G296 LUCAS Silas Emmett SOME GEORGIA COUNTY RECORDS VOL I
- R929.3 Qu GAGNE Yolande-Lynda REPERTOIRE DE MARIAGES ST ALEXIS DE GRANDE BAIE. 1841-1983 ST GABRIEL, STE BERNADETTE DE BOILEAU
- R929.3 Qu PONTBRIAND B MARIAGES DE DESCHAILLONS, FORTIERVILLE, PARISVILLE COMTE DE LOTBINIERE (BOUND W/ST ALEXIS GR BAIE
- R929.3 G296 PHILLIPS Brenda D ARNOLDSVILLE CEMETERY ARNOLDSVILLE GEORGIA
- R929.1 Hi MACPHAIL J R N Highland papers Vol III
- R929.3 Ar48 EASLEY Barbara P comp OBITUARIES OF BENTON CO ARKANSAS Vol 3 1905 -1909
- M265 Reels 52-81 NATIONAL ARCHIVES INDEX TO PASSENGER LISTS OF VESSELS ARRIVING AT BOSTON MA 1848-91 (COS - FERGUSON, C.)
- R929.3 So87 MALONE, Samuel Lorenzo BLACK FAMILIES IN CHEROKEE CO SOUTH CAROLINA AS TAKEN FROM 1910-1920 Federal Census
- R977.49 Mo (Mich Rm) MONETTE Clarence J EARLY SOUTH RANGE VOL I
- R929.3 P384 THE HOMESTEAD JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 1869-JANUARY 1870 (PHILADELPHIA PA) William Gaus

- R929.3 So87 SHERIFF G Anne ed BLACK HISTORY IN PICKENS DISTRICT SOUTH CAROLINA  
VOL I MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS VOL II TEACHERS
- R929.3 G286 DORSEY J E & J K DARDEN GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: A TOMBSTONE  
REGISTRY OF EMANUEL COUNTY GEORGIA
- R929.3 On8 HOULE Hubert REPERTOIRE DES MARIAGES DU COMTE DE GLENGARRY ONTARIO
- R929.3 Ha HALL Charles THE ANIWERP EMIGRATION
- R929.3 N48 DRAKE Leora W COL BILL'S TALES (CANISTEO NY) Gift Leona Chambers
- R929.1 Me MERRIMAN Brenda D GENEALOGY IN ONTARIO: SEARCHING THE RECORDS Rev Ed  
Gift Leona Chambers
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RECORDS
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- R929.3 T256 FISCHER Marjorie H & BURNS Ruth B TENNESSEE TIDBITS 1778-1914  
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- R929.3 Qu CAMPAGNA Dominique REPERTOIRE DES MARIAGES DES PAROISSES ST AGNES  
ST STANISLAS KOSTKA ST ANICET DIOCESE VALLEYFIELD
- R287.9774 Ea WOODS Dales A EAST MICHIGAN'S GREAT ADVENTURE: A HISTORY OF  
EAST MICHIGAN CONFERENCE FREE METHODIST CHURCH 1884-1984 Gift  
Saginaw Free Methodist Church
- R929.3 Ar48 EASLEY Barbara P et al OBITUARIES OF BENTON CO ARKANSAS VOL 4 1910-13
- R797.14 Wa (Mich Rm) WARNER Edward S CREW MEMBERS WHO SERVED ABOARD COMMERCIAL  
SAILING VESSELS ON THE GREAT LAKES 1838-1925
- R929.3 IL6 CROWDER Lola Frazer EARLY KASKASKIA ILLINOIS NEWSPAPERS 1814-1832
- M653 Reels 928-933, 935-957, 983-1054 1860 OHIO CENSUS MICROFILM ADAMS-  
ASHTABULA COUNTIES, CARROLL-DELAWARE COUNTIES & HARDIN-WYANDOT  
COUNTIES

SAGINAW DAILY NEWS  
Page 16 Thursday  
21 March 1929

# MANY HAPPY RETURNS

The Birthday Editor congratulates all these members of the Saginaw  
Daily News Birthday Club and offers them sincere wishes for many more most  
happy birthdays.

John WELSH RD No 2	Lila Mae LOCKWOOD RD No 4
Laura Mae BAKER RD No 1	Billy PLERRESBERG 2020 N Bond
Herbert BALLARD 527 North Oakley Street	
Marie BROUGHTON 1716 Clinton Street	Marian REYNOLDS 1319 Lyon Street
Edna BUEGER 616 Phoenix Street	Eleanor SANDOW 543 S Mason St
William Jack DECATOR 430 Hanchett Street	
Kathleen DUPRAW 2111 Clinton Street	Vera SIMKINS 1955 Brockway Road
Geraldine FERNETTE 1506 Court Street	Billy SIMMONS 519 Union Ave
Arthur R GEHRLS jr 1500 Congress Avenue	
Maxwell A HARPER 1244 Adams Street	Mary Jane VanSICKLE 1023 N Harrison
Isabel HAYES RD No 2	
Doris HEINLEIN Reese	
Laura Marian JACKSON 3008 Harold Street	
Leona JAENICKE RD No 2	
Helen JEAN 1518 Remington Street	
Colleen V LeROY 1210 South Seventeenth Street	

SAGINAW EVENING NEWS  
Wednesday  
21 August 1907

Mrs Agnes McBratnie Recalls Many Facts Interesting  
Alike to Old Time and Present Day Residents

For more than the scriptural three score years and ten Mrs Agnes McBratnie has been a resident of Saginaw and vicinity. Seventy-three years ago the girl, now grown to serene old age, came to Saginaw when the name was scarcely known and the town existed in embryo only, when the only ingress to the then feeble hamlet was by the old Indian trail from Detroit, when the latter town was the nearest purchasing point and when the settlers could be counted on the fingers of one hand. Time has mellowed the years to the gentle, genial, old lady who looks back on the past without regret and forward to the future with out fear. Though now in her eighty-first year, her memory of the pioneer days when events were few and living plain, is as keen and incisive as though she were not on the western slope.

She arrived in Saginaw with her family from Scotland in 1834, sent hither by a colonizing agent in Detroit named Frazer, grandfather of W F Paine. She recalls vividly the trip by boat, the swarms of mosquitos that assailed them at the mouth of the river and of the use of gunpowder as a smudge creator for driving them away. The mention of gunpowder recalled to her mind that is was also the pioneer remedy for ague. This ailment brings the smiles to the old lady's lips when mentioned now, but at the time it was a very serious matter. It was the real shaking kind and the neighbors used to have a shake sociable when a number who were thus afflicted got together.

A GREAT FLOOD

Mrs McBratnie is a staunch and loyal west sider and delights to remind the listener that the west side is real soil, that the foundation is firm and that it was built to stand; but she admits that there was a time when the high land up the river was submerged. This occurred in '37 or '38 and the water was so high that in their house they were obliged to use a canoe to reach the bed and the table stood in several inches of water.

The Williams brothers and two or three occupiers of other houses then comprised the population of Saginaw, and the Indians were thickly settled back of the Williams mill on Mackinaw and Niagara streets. The house now occupied by Norman Miller was built by Hiram Miller, the father of the present occupant, and the Williams brothers had residences on opposite sides of Michigan avenue, and the first hotel was built by the father of Oscar Jewett where Wright's mill stood until recently. The old Webster house, occupying about the site of the present residence of Mrs F C Stone, was of much later date and was destroyed by fire.



### PRIMITIVE PLEASURES

Serene and contented at 81, yet in a backward glance she recalls that the pleasures and pastimes of the little community were limited, that visiting was a thing to be undertaken only after serious thought and much preparation, that trips to the village were never more frequent than bi-weekly, and that when a family paid a social call they generally remained over night. School facilities were also limited and the schoolmaster boarded around from place to place as part compensation for his pedagogical labors. Ministers of the gospel were also few: there was no established church or minister for years after the arrival of her family. Her recollection is that the first permanent Methodist minister was named Bell and the first Presbyterian was a Mr Hyde. The old lady avers that the seasons were fixed in those days, that winter did not linger in the lap of spring, or summer tarry until the snow came. "We had regular seasons, the river and streams would freeze up in November and remain solid until March, there would be four or five feet of snow and the ice would always go out with a rush. Teacher would always dismiss school that the pupils might see the ice go out, a grand sight in those days."

The old lady has some antiques that are real, that would give the collectors of real antiques a spirit of covetousness. Some of the furniture made by hand in those early days is as strong and robust as ever, large and comfortable and a teapot made by the first tinner to come to Saginaw is a marvelous piece of work, pretentious, but substantial, and one calculated to fill the heart of the collector with envy. Carpets brought at the store of W I P Little in East Saginaw in 1845, the first dry goods store on that side of the river, yet show their clearly defined patterns after 60 years, and a rug made at the same time stands out conspicuous among the modern ones. Capt Vance's uncle was the first cabinetmaker in Saginaw, and some of the furniture now so highly prized was made by him. Before his advent the chair was made of a sawed log with four pegs driven in the round side.

### HIGH PRICES

Those were the days of high prices and a man had to work a whole month to get a barrel of flour in return for his wages. Pork commanded the fancy price of \$18 per barrel and a bushel of corn bought a yard of calico, and carpet was a dollar a yard, yet despite this many of the settlers carved a competence out of the soil. It is amusing to hear the old lady refer to the fact that there was no lumber, that the habitations were made of logs. when the present generation the very name of Saginaw is synonymous with lumber. But it was true in the days referred to and lumber could not be had. Because it was most easy to split black walnut was used for fence rails.

The early pioneers knew how to adapt themselves to circumstances

Mrs Agnes McBratnie (cont)

and the women were as adept as the men in riding horseback, paddling a canoe, swimming a stream or walking a rail fence. Mrs McBratnie recalls when the dog teams made the trip to Mackinaw once a month for the mails, and asserts that letters were infrequent, adding that postage was a shilling and the postmaster sometimes received his pay in garden truck.

She recalls with vividness the hand-wrought shingles, that were so vastly superior to the present day article, and refers with pride to the art of the dyer possessed by the early mothers who could with the aid of black oak convert a white dress into a purple, or with butternut into a brown. Mentioning the hordes of blackbirds that used to pester the farmers brought an amused smile to the old lady's face. Explaining it, she recalled the time when a daughter of Thomas McCarthy refused to stand out in the field and scare them away, so he built a platform, hoisted her upon it, then removed the ladder, and she was obliged to remain as a blackbird scare whether she would or no.

Mrs McBratnie has never been to a circus and has seen but one parade; nor has she ever visited the theater, yet she does not feel that she has missed much. The memory and love of the old days are strong with her and rude though the pleasures and crude the comforts, they brought health and happiness and the touch of out of doors that the present generation is learning to acquire.

She takes a keen interest in the semi-centennial, but has no desire to be in the glare, preferring the quiet of the twilight, loving the comfort of children, and most peaceful and contented when at home. She has a deep and abiding love for Saginaw and rejoices in its progress, but finds most pleasure in the memory of the days when friends were few, pleasures scant and work largely bounded by horizon. She is an interesting personality, connecting the very earliest days with the last moment of the present time.

# Early Saginaw County Deaths

by Lenard S. Lorn

(Continued from

Issue

Name	Death Date	Sex	Wt	Age Mo	Age Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872										
Geo B SCHULTZ	Apr 30	M	S	65			Germany	Tabaconist	Not Known	Germany
Matilda KROGMAN	Apr 6	F	S	2	5 19		Mich		Peter Krugman	Saginaw City
Cecil M PURVIS	Oct 1	M	S		5		Mich		Matilda Edmund Purvis	
Sarah HARDY	Sept 18	F	S	18			Canada		Jennie Wm Hardy	
Della WISNER	Apr 19	F	S		2 4		Mich		Katie Hugo Wisner	
Katie CLOSE	Nov 19	F	S		1 2		Mich		Bertie Wm Close	
Lyman B ATWATER	Aug 20	M	S	21	4 20	Saginaw City	New York		Mary Russel Atwater	Saginaw City
Ida CHAPMAN	Oct 21	F	S	2	11 17		Mich		Marinda Philander Chapman	
Antoinette PRIER	May 13	F	S						Maria Joseph Prier	
Amy SCHULTZ	Aug 25	F	S						Elenor Wm Schultz	
Mary WIDER	July 20	F	S						Nancy Chas Wider	
---- WOOD	Aug 7	F	S						Christine Henry Wood	
Isaac LeFLEUR	Oct 17	M	S	17				Laborer	Elizabeth Jos LeFleur	
Eugene GAUM	Apr 12	M	S	2	3 15				Adeline Gilbert Gaum	
Albert S PUTNAM	May 29	M	S	6	6		Mass		Adelia Albert Putnam	
Jessie BARKHAM	Feb 10	M	S	7	6 10		Mich		Canadora J C Barkham	
Nicholas BERMAN	Dec 15	M	S	47		Saginaw City	Prussia		Not Known	Not Known
Daisy TENNANT	Aug 27	F	S	2	16		Saginaw City		William Tennant	Saginaw City
									Josia	

STATE ARCHIVES OF MICHIGAN

RG 89-77  
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Saginaw County Michigan  
Circuit Court  
Naturalization Papers, 1852 - 1966  
Cubic feet: 26

NATURALIZATION RECORDS, 1852 - 1966      26 cubic feet

These records are divided into nine sub-series:

1. Declarations of Intention, 1852-1966. Includes two indexes. The first is, for the most part, an update of the second and should be used as the main index. The second index is best used as a cross-check
2. Oaths, 1882-19962. Includes both oaths and declarations of intention
3. Journals, 1884-1903. Contains both oaths and declarations of intention
4. Petition and Record, 1906 - 1953
5. Naturalization Certificate Stubs, 1907-1926. County copy of the certificate of citizenship sent to the naturalized citizen
6. Records of citizenship, 1892 -1897. Bound volumes that contain the final acceptance of the petitioner as a citizen
7. Monthly reports, 1939-1966. Contain total numbers of declarations and petitions filed, and a list of individuals naturalized each month
8. Log book lists dates, names and addresses, and checks for first and second papers, date naturalized, and comments
9. The card file is a list by surname of naturalized citizens

Within each subseries, the material is arranged chronologically

This was found at the beginning of roll of Naturalization Films for Saginaw County now available at Hoyt Library

# Early Saginaw County Deaths

by Lenard S. Iorn

(Continued from

Issue

Name	Death Date	Sex	Age	Yr	Mo	Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872											
Franz NINEDORF	May 23	M	M 35				Saginaw City	Germany	Laborer	Friederick Ninedorf	Germany
-----BRIMMER	Dec 13	M	S			2	Saginaw City	Mich		Not KNown	
----- FLATER	Aug 24	F	S Unknown				Sagianw City	Mich		John Brimmer	Saginaw City
----- FLATER	Aug 29	F	S Unknown							Lena	
Ernest FREDERICK	Apr 20	M	S			6				Carl Flater	Saginaw City
Sophia EBERHARDT	Apr 15	F	S			7 15				Bertie	
Johan KONLOW	May 9	M	S			1 3				Carl Flater	
August PASSOR	Dec 25	M	S			8 10				Bertie	
----- sic FROMBLY	Jan 21	M	S			3				Wm Frederick	
Danl McCARTY	Oct 11	M	M 51			9 16		Ireland		Wilhelmina	
----- FELLOWS	Feb 25	M	S			1		Mich		Paul Eberhardt	
Frank RUSSELL	Sept 22	Mq	S			7 19		New York		Sophia	
Letha RUSSELL	Sept 6	F	S			1 2		Mich		Johan Kohow	
----- MILLER	Nov 13	M	S Unknown					Mich		Caroline	
Eugene THOMPSON	Aug 15	M	S			3 15		Mich		Chas Passor	
Annie BROWN	Aug 20	F	S 16					Ohio		Fredericka	
Foster BROWN	June 9	M	M 49					New York	Farmer	John Trombly	
										Maggie	
										Thos McCarty	Ireland
										Mary	
										Albert Fellows	Saginaw City
										Rhoda	
										John Russell	
										Julia	
										John Russell	
										Julia	
										Gustave Miller	
										Pauline	
										George Thompson	
										Mary	
										Sam'l Brown	
										Annie	
										Ethan Brown	New York
										Nancy	

# Early Saginaw County Deaths

by Lenard S. Lorn

(Continued from

Issue

Name	Death Date	Sex	Age	Year	Month	Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872											
Ellen E TRIPP	Aug 16	F	S	11	8	16		Canada		Jonathan Tripp	
Jane A DOKE	Nov 24	F	S	14	6	14		Canada		Elizabeth	
Frederick COLLINS	Aug 15	M	S		9			Saginaw City		Wm Doke	
Peter SHERIDAN	Apr 15	M	S		28			Mich		Theresa	
Lillie S RUTHERFORD	Feb 28	F	S	6			Saginaw City	Mich		James Collins	
Anna C KAYNER	Dec 12	F	S		6	8	Burned to Death	Wisc		Jessica	
Harriet GAUM	Feb 1	F	S	1				Mich		Peter Sheridan	
Florence SAUNDERS	Mar 11	F	S	9	4	2		Mich		Mary	
May KEYES	Sept 13	F	S	1	4			Mich		John Rutherford	Saginaw City
Thomas WELCH	Mar 10	M	S	19				Canada		Catherine	
Frank PHOENIX	May 20	M	S	1	11	20		Mich		Alfred Kayner	
Mary RUSK	July 28	F	M	28	2		CB	Ireland		Frances	
Nellie GROVES	Aug 15	F	S	4	5	15		Canada		Anthony Gaum	
Louis WALNER	Dec 15	M	S	27				Germany		Catherine	
Anna SCANLAN	Nov 15	F	W	69				Ireland		Margaret	
Emma RONNICA	Mar 9	F	S	5				Mich		Wm Keyes	
Sarah J DAVIS	Oct 23	F	S		8	2		Mich		Mary	
Mary KROGMAN	Aug 13	F	M	28			CB	Germany		Patrick Welch	Canada
										Bridget	
										Frank Phoenix	Saginaw City
										Virgia	
										Patrick Smith	Ireland
										Mary	
										Fred Groves	Saginaw City
										Catherine	
										Not Known	Not Known
										John Stapleton	Ireland
										Not Known	
										Herman Ponnica	Saginaw City
										Caroline	
										Geo W Davis	Saginaw City
										Harriet	
										John	Saginaw City
										Not Known	

# Early Saginaw County Deaths

by Lenard S. Eorn

(Continued from

Issue

Name	Death Date	Sex	Race	Age Yr	Age Mo	Age Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872											
George B HOGAN	May 13	M	S	4	8	15				Not Known	<del>Saginaw City</del>
Henrietta TRIER	Aug 20	F	S	1						Jacob Trier	
----- GARDNER	Dec 15	F	S			1				Anna	
----- GAUM	Nov 27	M	S			9				George Gardner	
Albert GAUM	May 10	M	S	8	1	10				Angeline	
----- TRASK	Nov 30	M	S	Unk						Vincent Gaum	
Amy DENGLER	Oct 15	F	S	2	6					Wilhelmina	
Horace SADELDT	July 12	M	S		6	24				Vincent Gaum	
John SIMMS	Aug 1	M	S		10		Saginaw City	Mich		Wilhelmina	
Wm SCHEIB	Aug 11	M	S	1	8			Mich		Vincent Gaum	
Frank E BELL	Dec 14	M	M	26	5	28		Mich		Frederica	
Wm O'DONNELL	Dec 26	M	S	1	6			Mich		John Sadelot	
Albert STANTON	Oct 19	M	M	29	10			New York		Emily	
Johann PRIEM	Nov 5	M	S	14				Mich		Thomas Simms	Saginaw City
Cherry WELLS	July 26	M	S		8	8	Saginaw City	Mich		Catherine	
John STENGELL	Sept 4	M	S		10			Mich		William Scheib	Saginaw City
Jennie B DICKERSON	Aug 28	F	S		6	15		Saginaw City		Theresa	
Archie SMITH	Aug 8	M	S	1	14			Saginaw City		Oliver Bell	Saginaw City
										Eliza	
										William O'Donnel	Saginaw City
										Ellen	
										Darvis Stanton	New York
										Not Known	
										Fred Priem	Saginaw City
										Fredericka	
										Julius Wells	Saginaw City
										Adeline	
										John Stengell	
										Adeline	
										John L Dickerson	
										Eliza	
										Archibald Smith	
										Helen	

Name	Death Date	Sex	Age	Yr Mo Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872 Emily AMES	June 10	F	M 33			Ireland		Harry McCracken	Saginaw City
Barney WREN	Dec 13	M	F 35		Saginaw City	Canada	Carpenter	Lucinda Felix Wren	Saginaw City
Catherine WREN	Nov 3	M	F 34		Saginaw City	Ireland		Mary John Kane	
Not Known	Nov 4	M	S		1 Saginaw City	Mich		Mary	
Una McPARLAN	Sep 1	F	M 30			Ireland		Not Known	Saginaw City
J Lednard JOHNSON	Dec 16	M	S 6 3			Mich		Michael McQueen	Ireland
Coleman SHAW	Nov 8	M	S 18 11 2			Canada		Unknown	
Orvilla THOMPSON	May 10	F	S 29 2			Ohio		Leonard Johnson	Saginaw City
Louis BENDER	Sept 15	M	S 14 6			Penn		Octavia	
Maud B HUNTINGTON	Oct 6	F	S 1 7			Ohio		Coleman Shaw	
Fred D RISER	Dec 8	M	S 1 10			Mich		Jane	
John W VanVOLKENBURG	Sep 7	M	S 1 7 26			Mich		Wm Thompson	
James H BURMES	Sept 30	M	B 5 28			Mich		Esther	
Washington BRICE	Apr 6	M	B M 29			Penn		John Bener	
Edward MAYE	Apr 18	M	M 29 10			Germany	August Plaga	Catherine	
Mary F WEAVER	May 5	F	W 82 9 9			Germany		Edgar D HUNTINGTON	
Mary E RUSK	Aug 4	F	S 14			Mich		Jane	
Pauline B FISH	Dec 18	F	S 16		Sagianw City	Mich		Joseph Riser	
Wm M MILLER	Apr 24	M	M 46 2			Vermont	Atty	Mary	
								Mary VanVolkenberg	Saginaw City
								Nellie	
								Not Known	Unknown
								Chas Bryce	Penn
								Anna	
									Germany
								Christine	
								Not Known	Not Known
								Wm Rusk	Saginaw City
								Mary	
								Mary Fish	Saginaw City
								Wm	
								Solomon Miller	Burlington
								Eliza	



NEW BOOKS IN THE EDDY ROOM  
A DESCRIPTIVE LIST OF SELECTED TITLES

BY  
ANNA MAE MADAY, MANAGER  
EDDY HISTORICAL COLLECTION

ANNALS OF SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA 1769-1800. Part I. by Lewis Preston Summers . 948 pages. Originally published in 1929 this 1996 reprint of Part I includes court records, wills, deeds, marriages licenses from the Virginia counties of Botetourt, Fincastle, Montgomery, Washington and Wythe. For those searching Southwest Virginia this volume contains a wealth of information including Revolutionary War soldiers, information about the French and Indian War, and lists of soldiers stationed at forts in that area. A couple of private journals are also included in this work, as well as three foldout maps, and a number of illustrations.

DEATHS RECORDED IN MANKATA CITY AND BLUE EARTH COUNTY, MINNESOTA, DIRECTORIES, 1892-1930 compiled by Stina B. Green. 32 pages. This booklet is an alphabetical listing of deaths noted in the area's city directories. The preface give information on how to obtain further documentation of the deaths and obituaries. This is one of a series of books on death records from Minnesota city directories.

BAY CITY LOGBOOK: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY by Jeremy Kilar. 208 pages. Published in 1996 by G. Bradley Publishing, this book is similar to the book "Saginaw's Changeable Past: An Illustrated History". The book includes an up-to-date interpretation of the archaeology of the Bay City area, as well as a history of the Bay County Historical Society and its Museum. Pictures obtained from the community for publication in the book make this volume a valuable addition for our library shelves. The book also contains an index and bibliography.

SAGINAW'S CHANGEABLE PAST: AN ILLUSTRATED HISTORY. by Jeremy W. Kilar. 200 pages. This book was first published in 1994. A second printing made some corrections to the photographs, and changes to the cover. One commendable feature in the book is the insight into the correct origin of the name "Saginaw" which lays to rest various interpretations and legends. Unfortunately, the first printing included a photo of a giant jackrabbit, which led some to believe that Saginaw actually had "monster bunnies". For those who like pictures of the good old days in Saginaw there is a wealth of photos not seen before in other publications. This is a concise history with a bibliography and index.

# Early Saginaw County Deaths

by Lenard S. Lorn

(Continued from

Issue

Name	Death Date	Sex	Age	Year	Month	Day	Place of Death	Birthplace	Occupation	Parents	Residence
1872											
Adelbert A LEWIS	Sept 30	M	S	9	12			Mich		Theodore Lewis	Saginaw City
Michael G MARTIN	Sept 13	M	M 35	7	5	Killed		Ireland	Merchant	Abby Wm Martin	Ireland
----- OGLESBY	July 6	M	S		21			Mich		Mary Alexander Oglesby	Scotland
Lucy GREEN	Oct 5	F	M 30	9				NY		Margarett Danl Green	Canada New York
Wm HUFF	Oct 27	M	M 39	7			Saginaw City	Canada	Laborer	Lucy John Huff	Canada
John BENNETT	Dec 19	M	S 1	9	15			Mich		Catherine Isaac Bennett	Saginaw City
Minnie NESTOR	July 17	F	S 4					Mich		Catherine Patrick Nestor	
Eva MANNING	Sept 8	F	S	3	6			Mich		Ann Jas G Manning	
Ebenezer BRIGGS	Aug 3		M M 65					Mass	Unknown	Harriet Ebenezer Briggs	Mass
Harry E REDMAN	July 17	M	S	5	14			Mich		Hannah Michael Redman	Saginaw City
Barbara SEWENEIG	Feb 14	F	M 57	5				Germany		Jane Not Known	Not Known
David OGRADY	Oct 16	M	S 4	4	19			Mich		John O'Grady	Saginaw City
John KIELY	Oct 15	M	S 26					Mich	Laborer	Ann Timothy Kiely	St Clare
Joseph WYNCOOP	Nov 15	M	S 1	6				Mich		Unknown Charles Wyncoop	Saginaw City
FINIS										Mary	

# PUBLICATIONS OF THE SAGINAW GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## TIMBERTOWN LOGS

Volume I	- Issues 1,2,3 . . . . .	\$ 1.75 ea.
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	Indexes to these Volumes . . . . .	2.00 ea.
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Volume XX	- Issue 4 with index . . . . .	4.00 ea.
Volume XX	- Issues 1,2,3,4 . . . . .	3.00 ea.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

History of Bridgeport, Michigan, Saginaw County, by T.J. Pollen	
Ca. 1912 (1978 Reprod) Contents, Preface, Index added, soft cover	
79 pages . . . . .	5.75 ea.
History of Frankenmuth, Saginaw County, Michigan by T.J. Pollen	
1914 (1971 Reprod.) Contents, Preface, Index added 52 pages . . . .	7.75 ea.
First Land Purchasers of Saginaw County, Michigan by Leonard S.	
Zorn, 1987 soft cover, indexed, maps 139 pages . . . . .	7.00 ea.

## SAGINAW COUNTY CEMETERIES

Book 1	- Wildwood Cemetery, Chesaning Twp. 1982 136 pages . . . . .	8.00 ea.
Book 2	- Oakgrove Cemetery, Pinegrove Cemetery Bridgeport Twp; St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Hammond Cemetery Birch Run Twp., 1982 soft cover 105 pages . . . . .	7.00 ea.
Book 3	- St. Charles Twp., 1982 soft cover 94 pages . . . . .	6.00 ea.
Book 4	- Brant Twp., Taymouth Twp., Wheaton (Indian) Cemetery, 1982 soft cover, 87 pages . . . . .	6.00 ea.
Book 5	- West Side Cemetery, Freeland; St. Johann's Cemetery Frankentrost, Bethelhem Lutheran, Richland Twp., 1987 soft cover, 81 pages . . . . .	7.50 ea.
Book 6	- Buena Vista Twp., Kochville Methodist, Owen Cemetery, Bethel Lutheran Church, Frankenmuth Twp., St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, indexed, soft cover, 86 pages . . . . .	7.50 ea.

## SAGINAW COUNTY ATLAS FOR 1877, 1896, 1916

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