

# MUNDY.

THE township of Mundy includes Congressional township No. 6 north, in range 6 east, or one-half the territory originally set off to it. It is bounded north by Flint township, east by Grand Blanc, south by Fenton, and west by Gaines, which was until 1842 included within its limits. The natural characteristics of Mundy are much the same as those of its sister-towns, consisting of a generally level surface, with portions considerably undulating, a variety of soil, and a considerable acreage of timber. In many respects it is one of the best townships in the county, and its improvements are very generally excellent. It was settled by an energetic, thrifty class of farmers, and the success which has attended their efforts to build up substantial and comfortable homes in the wilderness is everywhere apparent in the fine forms, tasty dwellings, and the various accompaniments of a well-ordered agricultural community. Unlike many portions of the country, its first settlers possessed a greater intelligence than those in other localities, and this, combined with enterprise, wrought a wonderful change in the face of the region which frowned upon them over forty years ago in all the majesty of a forest-crowned domain, where the brute creation held almost undisputed sway and the axe of the pioneer had never swung nor its strokes echoed through the primeval aisles. But as change is the order elsewhere, so was it here, and the pleasant and peaceful homes of to-day are a marked contrast to the wilderness of earlier years.

## LAND ENTRIES.

The following is a list of land-entries in this township, transcribed from the tract-book of George M. Dewey, Esq., of Flint:

SECTION 1.		Acres.
James Spier, Livingston Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		240
Joseph Lawrence, Westchester Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		168.73
Jonathan G. Firman, Oakland Co., Mich., Nov. 1835.....		80
Hiram Rusco, Genesee Co., Mich., Nov. 1835.....		169.03
SECTION 2.		
Nathaniel Nelson, Genesee Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		167.59
James Spier, Livingston Co., N. Y., " ".....		80
Noble Beagle, " ".....		80
John Hamer, Monroe Co., " ".....		160
Samuel Preble, Genesee Co., " ".....		86.75
Wm. Taylor, Saratoga Co., " July, 1836.....		80
SECTION 3.		
James M. Hutchings, Monroe Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		80
Bradbury Eastman, Genesee Co., N. Y., " ".....		80
Phebe Hatch, " ".....		80
Dewitt C. Gregory, Chenango Co., N. Y., July, 1836.....		80
Abraham C. Matron, Genesee Co., Mich., July, 1836.....		80
Wm. Taylor, Saratoga Co., N. Y., July, 1836.....		85.89
Robert Cann, Wayne Co., Mich., March, 1836.....		163.67
SECTION 4.		
Henry H. Howland, Oakland Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		80
Benj. Simmons, " ".....		80
Abigail Simmons, " ".....		80
Abraham Beckorn, Morris Co., N. J., June, 1836.....		80
Wm. Taylor, Saratoga Co., N. Y., July, 1836.....		163.28
Wm. Eddy, Genesee Co., N. Y., March, 1836.....		84.25
Abraham Buckland, Genesee Co., N. Y., April, 1836.....		80

SECTION 5.		Acres.
Henry H. Howland, Oakland Co., Mich., May, 1836.....		160
Hiram Wright, Genesee Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		83.94
Thomas Durfee, " ".....		80
Cook & Gordon, Wayne Co., Mich., July, 1836.....		160
Truman B. Wilkinson, Genesee Co., Mich., Oct. 1836.....		164.58

SECTION 6.		
John L. Eastman, Seneca Co., N. Y., April, 1836.....		159.80
A. E. Mather, Wayne Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		488.62

SECTION 7.		
A. E. Mather, Wayne Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		80
Isaac W. Morton, Washtenaw Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		40
Daniel Tooker, Orange Co., N. Y., September, 1836.....		321.16
Sprague Wilkerson, Genesee Co., Mich., October, 1836.....		160
David Gibson, " " April, 1839.....		40

SECTION 8.		
Jonathan Collins, Jr., Oakland Co., Mich., May, 1836.....		80
Alonzo F. Alger, Genesee Co., " June, 1836.....		120
Smith Titus, Cayuga Co., N. Y., " ".....		120
Samuel Dibble, Litchfield Co., Conn., " ".....		160
Elijah Bishop, Jr., Chautauqua Co., N. Y., " ".....		160

SECTION 9.		
A. H. Howland, Oakland Co., Mich., May, 1836.....		80
Wm. M. Hodge, Otsego Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		80
Bildad Hodge, " ".....		80
Abigail Simmons, Oakland Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		80
Abraham Beckorn, Morris Co., N. J., " ".....		80
William Smith, Oakland Co., Mich., " ".....		80
" " July, 1836.....		80
Sprague Wilkerson, Genesee Co., Mich., October, 1836.....		80

SECTION 10.		
McHenry, Hurley, Kuroheval, and Smith, United States, May, 1836.....		160
Irwin C. Simmons, Oakland Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		80
Jacob Bentley, Ontario Co., N. Y., " ".....		80
Charles Wilcox, " ".....		40
Samuel Perry, Columbia Co., " ".....		200
Stephen Chatfield, Oakland Co., Mich., " ".....		80

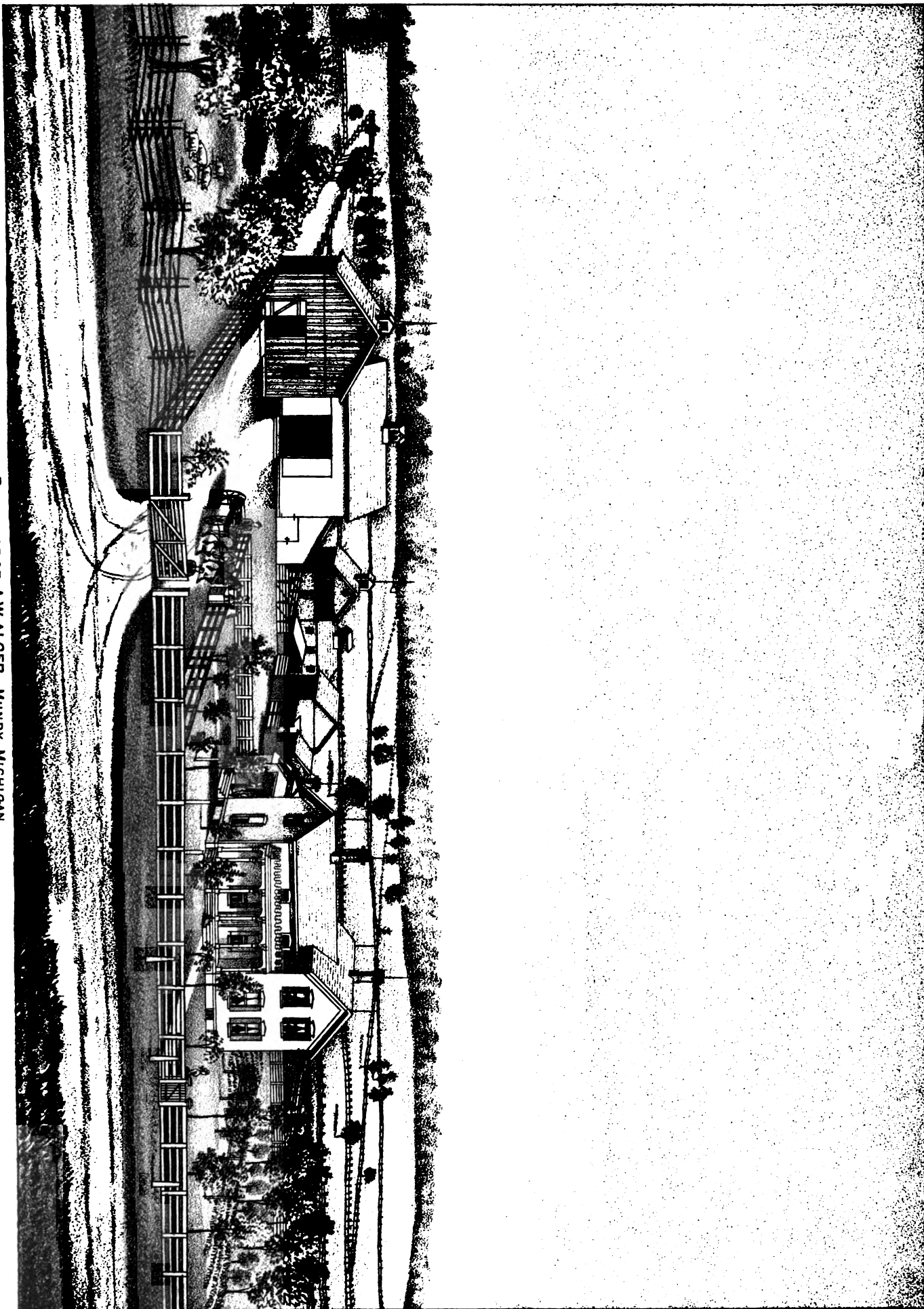
SECTION 11.		
Volney Stiles, Monroe Co., N. Y., November, 1833.....		40
Eli Gilbert, Oakland Co., Mich., June, 1835.....		40
Birdsell N. Johnson, Broome Co., N. Y., September, 1835.....		120
Dennis Brainard, Niagara Co., " November, 1835.....		40
J. Whipple and G. Bartlett, Livingston Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		240
Samuel Perry, Columbia Co., " ".....		80
John R. Martin, Wayne Co., Mich., June, 1836.....		40
Ira D. Wright, Genesee Co., " July, ".....		40

SECTION 12.		
Bradbury Eastman, Tompkins Co., N. Y., November, 1833.....		40
Hiram Rusco, Genesee Co., Mich., November, 1835.....		120
John Lewis, Jackson Co., " February, 1836.....		80
Smith Titus, Cayuga Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		320
Chauncey Brown, Livingston Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		40

SECTION 13.		
Daniel Williams, Lapeer Co., Mich., May, 1833.....		80
John Lewis, Genesee Co., " November, 1835.....		160
Bradbury Eastman, " " March, 1836.....		80
Peter Crise, Cayuga Co., N. Y., June, 1836.....		320

SECTION 14.		
John Richards, Niagara Co., N. Y., September, 1833.....		80
Birdsell N. Johnson, Broome Co., N. Y., September, 1835.....		40
Isaac W. Morton, Washtenaw Co., Mich., February, 1836.....		80
John Hempstead, Monroe Co., N. Y., May, 1836.....		280
Seth Beckwith, Livingston Co., " ".....		80
Washington D. Morton, Washtenaw Co., Mich., May, 1836.....		80

RESIDENCE OF A.W. ALGER, MUNDY, MICHIGAN.









On the 17th day of May, 1833, Daniel Williams purchased the west half of the northwest quarter of section 13,—eighty acres,—which he divided equally between Eli Gilbert and Jason L. Austin, who had come with him, and who settled on the portions assigned to them at the same time. Mr. Williams returned to the State of New York, and in October of the same year (1833) came back to Mundy in company with Volney Stiles. The latter, in November following,\* entered the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 11, and settled upon it immediately. Mr. Stiles is yet living at Mundy Centre, and beyond a doubt came into the township earlier than any person now numbered among its residents. He and Lester Williams built a shanty and lived in it together,† neither of them being at the time married.

Morgan Baldwin, a native of Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y., started from that place for Michigan on the 6th of September, 1833, and on the 10th arrived at Put-in-Bay, where the passengers cheered themselves hoarse in honor of the gallant commodore and the men who had aided him to win so signal a victory just twenty years before. After his arrival at Detroit, Mr. Baldwin pushed on immediately for Bloomfield, Oakland Co., where his uncle, Wilkes Durkee, was then living. In December following he went back to Elmira, sold his property, and returned to Bloomfield, arriving in that town early in February. During the same month (St. Valentine's Day) he married a second time, his first wife having died some time previously. In the spring of 1834, Mr. Baldwin and George Judson started together on a land-hunting expedition, and, after ranging over the counties of Livingston and Shiawassee, finally selected locations in what is now Mundy, the entries being made in March, 1834. Mr. Baldwin still lives on the place he then purchased. Mr. Judson first chose the next lot west of Baldwin's, but soon changed it for the place he now occupies.

Mr. Baldwin the same month built a log house 16 by 24 feet in dimensions, with a puncheon-floor, blankets hung up to answer for doors, etc. In this work he was helped by George Judson, and by Stephen Durkee, of Oakland County, a carpenter by trade. Some Indian traders who lived fifteen miles away, in Shiawassee County, and who were passing over the trail near which Mr. Baldwin located, also helped raise, and the favor was returned two or three years later by the two gentlemen going to some place in Shiawassee County and helping raise a barn. Mr. Baldwin moved into his house April 5, 1834, the same day Dustin Cheney settled at what is now Fenton, and was one of the party who a few days later aided in the search for Mr. Cheney's little girl, who had been lost in the woods.‡

Four years after Mr. Baldwin settled his wife died, and he is now living with his third wife. When he came here with his family he cleared five acres. One day an Indian trader from the West came by, and Baldwin told him if he knew of any one who wanted to hire out to send him along. Soon afterward Nelson Meaker made his appearance at the place, and Mr. B. hired him. He squatted on a piece of

land near by, afterwards selling his "chance" for it to David Gibson. Meaker lived in the township many years, and is now a resident of the township of Argentine.

George Judson, who had helped Mr. Baldwin build his house, went back to Oakland County to make preparations for coming on to his own land and clearing up a portion of it. When Baldwin went after his family he met Judson on his way to begin chopping. The latter cleared a tract on his place and put in some wheat and potatoes, in order to have something to live on. He did not move upon his farm, however, until November, 1834. He had also built during the same summer. Mr. Judson is a native of Otsego Co., N. Y., and his parents were from Connecticut. He lived in Elmira, Chemung Co., N. Y., until 1832, in which year he came to Michigan, locating in Bloomfield, Oakland Co., where he remained until his removal to Mundy at the date above given.

Thomas Glover, from Birmingham, England, and a Scotchman named David Gibson, entered land in November, 1834, on section 34, and settled upon it the same fall. The two men arranged for their wives to remain in Detroit until they could come on and prepare a shelter for them, but Mrs. Glover thought herself as well able to stand the journey as her husband, and accompanied him, living with Mr. Baldwin's family until her future home—the proverbial log shanty—was ready for occupation. Mrs. Gibson stayed in Detroit until everything was ready for her, and then moved on and occupied the shanty her husband had prepared.

Seth Kitchen and family settled in the fall of 1835. Several members of the household were consumptive, and all who were afflicted finally died with that dread disease. The first one to go—and the first death in the township, so far as is now recollected—was Mrs. Kitchen herself, who died in the spring of 1836. Her children—Thomas, William, and Mary—followed her within the year, also the wife of her son John. The first burials were in what is still used as a cemetery near the school-house in District No. 1. Among those buried here are the following:

- Daniel Odell, died April 9, 1872, aged 69 years.
- Reuben Winget, died May 27, 1859, aged 53 years.
- Thomas Glover, died Feb. 14, 1855, aged 50 years.
- Robert Cox, died July 16, 1868, aged 52 years.
- John Hollowell, "born at Ravensthorp, Northamptonshire, England, October 16, 1794; died September 11, 1859."
- John Judson, died March 24, 1865, aged 70 years.
- Eber Handy, died Oct. 15, 1846, aged 52 years.
- Ebenezer Conant, died Dec. 31, 1833 (in the East), aged 36 years.
- Lois, his wife, died Sept. 26, 1843, aged 42 years.
- Aligail, wife of Henry Borst, died April 6, 1841, aged 33 years.
- Harriet, wife of J. Meaker, died Nov. 13, 1843, aged 22 years.
- Susannah, wife of George Judson, died Aug. 14, 1836, aged 24 years.
- Emily, wife of George Judson, died March 29, 1874, aged 61 years.
- Delilah P. Sage, died Feb. 10, 1857, aged 62 years.
- Mary Jane, wife of M. Baldwin, died March 31, 1838, aged 22 years.

Besides these, there are numerous other old settlers, at whose graves headstones have never been placed.

Ebenezer Bishop, from Lima, Livingston Co., N. Y., came to Michigan in 1833, and stopped at Springfield, Oakland Co., through that fall and winter, with his father's cousin, Giles Bishop. In the spring of 1834, Mr. Bishop came on into Grand Blanc, where he remained until the fall of 1836, when he returned to New York, married, and

\* Record of entry, November, 1833, in tract-book for Genesee County.

† Information by T. P. Stiles.

‡ See history of Fenton.





JOSIAH ALGER.



JOSIAH H. ALGER.

### JOSIAH ALGER AND FAMILY.

The family of Alger, which are widely scattered over the States, sprang, according to the best genealogical records, from three brothers who came to this country from Wales during the seventeenth century, settling in Massachusetts,—the home of the Pilgrim Fathers. Josiah Alger, the subject of this sketch, and Ira Alger, twins, were born in Massachusetts, June 3, 1782, coming with their parents to Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y., in 1793, then a wild and unbroken wilderness,—their sister being the first white woman married in that vicinity.

Mr. Alger was married, in 1803, to Esther, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Scovel, of Vermont. They reared a family of ten children, of whom but two are now living, Josiah H. and Lewis. He emigrated to Troy, Oakland Co., Mich., November, 1823, where he located lands, clearing up a large farm. Selling out in 1835, he, in company with others, took a ramble through Livingston, Shiawassee, and Genesee Counties, locating eleven lots of land in the town of Mundy, Genesee Co., and moved on to it in May, 1836. He was one of the first settlers, being one of the organizers of the township then comprising the townships of Gaines and Mundy, with but eighteen voters in both. The first town-meeting was held at his house in 1837, and he was the first supervisor, which office he held for several years.

In profession Mr. Alger was a physician; in politics, a Democrat; and in religion, a strong Universalist to the last. He suffered the change called death, March 6, 1852, but from information gleaned of old residents, and incidents recited by their children, he died not out of the memory of any who were so fortunate as to have made his acquaintance. He is accredited by the remaining pioneers—Mr. Glover, Thompson, Baldwin, and others—as being a man without an enemy, and they relate many incidents of his beneficence; among which was sending a team to Pontiac several times for flour and meal to feed those in destitution, refusing to sell to the above relators and others because of their having the means of purchase. Mr. Alger was most truly a benefactor to his countrymen, always dispensing justice, and where most needed. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, as was his father, Josiah, in the Revolution, of whom there still remain among the relatives mementos of his chivalry and art.

Mrs. Alger was a most estimable woman. Was born in Vermont, Aug. 19, 1785, and died in Mundy, of consumption, Jan. 21, 1843. Ira Alger, the twin brother, settled near Holly, Oakland Co., and died there about 1848.

Josiah H. Alger, son of Josiah, was born in Ontario Co., N. Y., Dec. 3, 1809. Came to Michigan with his parents in 1823; he remained at home, helping to clear up the farm, until the age of twenty-two. He then started out for himself with a fair education, mostly self-acquired, and an abundant capital of physical strength and energy, which have made their record all along his line of march. He commenced by taking jobs of chopping, rail-splitting, etc., until he acquired the means to buy one hundred and sixty acres of land in Macomb County. In the spring of 1836 he located four lots of land on sections 29 and 30, in Mundy, Genesee Co.

He was married, April, 1837, to Mary A., daughter of Wm. and Susan F. (Howland) Stanley, of Troy, Oakland Co. Worked his father-in-law's farm for four years. Selling his Macomb lands, he moved on his own lands in Mundy, in March, 1841, being compelled to cut a road one and a half miles in order to reach it; but, by dint of persevering energy and the impetus of a strong will, he soon had a trail to his land, a log house staked, a stone and mud fireplace, to which he improvised a mud and stick chimney, a floor of split-stuff, doors, etc., after occupancy. The first year he grew of potatoes, roots, corn, and oat fodder sufficient for self-use, and some to spare. In the fall he sowed some twenty acres of wheat, which, when harvested, he threshed with a flail on a ground-floor, taking it to Pontiac and Detroit, and exchanging it for store pay at three shillings and sixpence per bushel. Those were the times that tried the souls of men, even of iron nerve, to meet the demands of nature and taxation,—the latter of which often periled all. As but little of the wild-cat money had an exchange value, and nearly all business was conducted by barter and exchange of produced commodities, the pioneers experienced trials which only an indomitable courage and an abiding faith in the future enabled them to meet, and to persevere until the dawn of "better times."

In those days there was no social ostracism. The crotch dray and ox-

sled were the principal means of transit, and with these neighbors used to get together, winding their way through the woods to each other's homes on winter evenings to dance, scrape a turnip, exchange hunting tales, and other life-scenes; speculate on new projects, public and private, and after the midnight banquet of biscuit (baked in a tin-oven—there being no stoves) and wild honey, with a bit of dried venison, or perchance bear, they repaired to their several homes, without bickering, happy and content with each other and their surroundings. The men and women there wore homespun for common and nice, with factory, colored with butternut and oak-bark, for a change. Calico then filled the place that silks and worsteds do now, with from ten to twenty less yards in a pattern. They had no use for hippodromes and other paraphernalia, simply the naked requisites. Their boots and shoes were made of cowhide, and of home manufacture, as nearly every pioneer was a cobbler.

Thus Mr. and Mrs. Alger, by dint of their united efforts, perseverance, and economy, soon had cleared a large farm, and had otherwise given to that which but a few years before was a wilderness and Indian hunting-ground the appearance of a home of plenty. They are spoken of as very estimable neighbors, and universally esteemed by all in their old home, where they resided for sixteen years, during which time Mr. Alger filled the office of supervisor and that of commissioner for several years. Having, in 1849, by heirship and purchase, become owner of the Wm. Stanley farm, in Troy, two hundred and fifty acres, he rented his Mundy farm, four hundred and forty acres, and removed there in 1857, where he remained until 1870, when he purchased a fine residence in Birmingham,—three miles from his farm,—where he intends to spend his days.

Mrs. Alger was born Feb. 29, 1820, in Richmond, Ontario Co., and died Nov. 26, 1874, of heart-disease, leaving many bright oases along the pathway of her busy life, as lasting memorials to her relatives and numberless friends who still miss and mourn her demise.

Mr. Alger, for his second wife, married Mrs. Clarissa Armstrong, Nov. 1, 1875, a most estimable widow lady, with whom he now lives, surrounded by a host of friends, and with every needful comfort in their declining years.

WILLIAM R. ALGER, son of Josiah H., was born May 10, 1838, in Troy, Oakland Co., Mich. He came with his parents to Mundy in 1841, and returned with them to Troy in 1857. Having obtained a good academic education, he commenced teaching in 1859. During 1860 he roamed over the South and West, traveling through nine States. Returning in January, 1861, he taught school in the village of Big Beaver, Oakland Co., three months. During the summer he worked his farm of forty acres and a part of the homestead, teaching the same school the following winter. In the fall of 1861 he exchanged his farm with his father for eighty acres of his Mundy farm, and rented the balance for five years. On the 8th day of March he was married, at the Antisdale House in Detroit, to Miss Julia Jenette, daughter of John and Rachel Bookham. The next April he moved to Mundy. In 1866 he purchased the eighty-acre meadow adjoining his farm for two thousand five hundred dollars. The following year he sold the one hundred and sixty acres to J. M. Peck for five hundred dollars, and the same day purchased the old homestead. On this farm Mr. Alger has built an elegant residence, repaired the outbuildings, cleared twenty-five acres, and put in six miles of underdrain, making his farm one of the finest in the county.

Mrs. Alger was born in Troy, Oakland Co., Dec. 25, 1842. Was one of a family of seven children. Her parents emigrated from Manchester, England, in 1841. There have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Alger two children,—John J., born Aug. 14, 1863, and Agnes A., born Dec. 12, 1864.

In religion and local politics Mr. Alger can well be called a liberalist. In national matters he votes the Democratic ticket. He is one who makes friends among all classes, and especially among the poor and unfortunate, to whom he has ever extended a helping hand. He has been supervisor three terms, having been elected on the People's ticket by a large majority, in the strongest Republican town in the county, and has filled the office with credit to himself and his constituents. He is a strong temperance man and a moralist. Is well read historically and otherwise, and possesses the traits necessary to make him a leader among men.





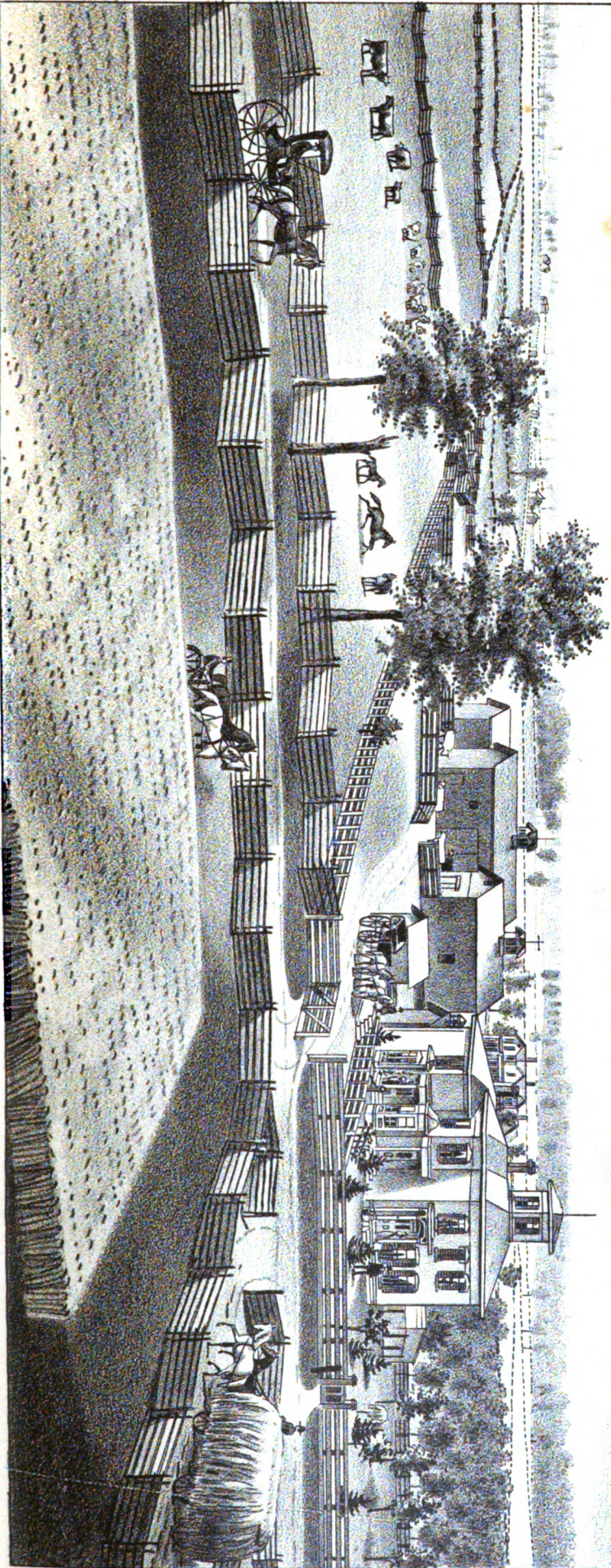
WM. R. ALGER.



VIEW FROM THE SOUTH.



MRS. WM. R. ALGER.



RESIDENCE OF WM. R. ALGER, MUNDY, MICHIGAN.





in June, 1837, settled in Mundy, on the place he still occupies. Jason L. Austin and Randall Williams were then living near him. The former, who has been previously mentioned, lived in a log house. His wife died within a year or two, and he sold out and removed to Saginaw County, locating near the Tittibawassee River. Williams soon sold to C. D. W. Gibson, who lived at Whigville, in Grand Blanc township, and went away with the Mormons.

Chauncey Cogsdell, now of the township of Flint, came to Mundy when a boy, in company with Ebenezer Bishop. He had worked for the latter's father and father-in-law in New York, and was allowed to come to Michigan with Mr. Bishop. He stayed with him until he became of age, working with him also afterwards.

When Mr. Bishop came (1837), there were living near him—besides those mentioned—Harvey Parks and Gilbert Phelps, the latter just over the line in Grand Blanc. Parks lived on section 13, on what was afterwards the Daniel Mason, now the Todd, farm. He removed not long after to the township of Ocoola, Livingston Co., where he died.

The region of "oak-openings" extended north into Mundy as far as the farm of Mr. Bishop, or a little beyond, his place being close on the edge of the heavy timber. Swartz Creek was the division between the timber and the openings.

After numerous attempts in this town to hear of some hairbreadth escape from wild animals, or desperate struggle in a swamp, or other of the tales so often told, the following incident was the only one related which could be safely called an adventure. Mr. Bishop was on one occasion "packing" home some fresh meat, and while yet some distance away from home, and in the township of Grand Blanc, the howl of a wolf broke upon his ear, causing him to quicken his pace. It was answered by others, and finally he imagined he saw one of the savage brutes standing in the pathway ahead of him. Making up his mind that it would be worse for him to run than to advance boldly forward, he took out his jack-knife and opened it, and prepared to manufacture an excellent article of mince-meat from the carcass of the wolf. Upon arriving at the object, he was agreeably surprised at finding it to be nothing more dangerous than an *oak bush*, which in the moonlight he had taken for a wolf. Mr. Bishop thinks many of the wonderful adventures related have no more foundation in fact than this of his own.

Josiah Alger, a native of Massachusetts, and afterwards a resident of Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y., settled in Troy, Oakland Co., Mich., in 1823, and removed to Mundy in May, 1836, with his family. At that time the township was thinly populated, but the same season witnessed the arrival of several families. Mr. Alger was one of the organizers of Mundy township, and became its first supervisor, holding the position a number of years. He located a large amount of land in the township, and lived on section 21. His family consisted of ten children,—seven sons and three daughters; and of these two are now living,—Josiah H. Alger, at Birmingham, Oakland Co., and Lewis Alger, now of the township of Fenton. Mr. Alger gave 80 acres to each of his children. He was by profession a physician, and the first who practiced in the township.

His journeys were always performed on foot, and he is remembered as a kind neighbor and an excellent nurse. In connection with other offices, he held that of justice of the peace for many years. He was a man of great general information, a Universalist in religious matters, and exceedingly well posted in Scripture. He died in Mundy, on the 6th of March, 1852.

Josiah H. Alger, son of the above, located the farm where his son, William R. Alger (present supervisor of Mundy), now lives. He did not settle until 1841, but in that year made the first improvements on the place,—built a log house with split stuff for doors, a stick chimney, etc. In 1857 he moved back to Oakland County, and since about 1870 has resided at Birmingham. He was also for some years supervisor of the township of Mundy, besides holding other positions.

William R. Alger, aside from his farming operations, is engaged to some extent in dealing in stock, as was also his father while living here, and has at present a few head of improved stock,—horses, cattle, and sheep. He is one of a family of eight children, six of whom are living. His only brother, John F. Alger, is now in Colorado.

One of the early settlers in the Alger neighborhood was Mr. Barnum, father of Daniel P. Barnum, who now lives on the old farm.

The first white male child born in the township of Mundy was Thomas Glover's son, Henry Glover, and the first white female child was Hannah Baldwin, daughter of Morgan Baldwin, her birth occurring March 30, 1835.

What is known as the "Baldwin road" was the first one laid out in the town, and follows in places nearly the route of an old Indian trail which extended from Springfield, Oakland Co., to Shiawassee. This was the main traveled route through the township.

Asa Pierce, a native of Massachusetts, and afterwards a resident of Ontario Co., N. Y., came to Mundy with his family in 1835. His son, Asa T. Pierce, still living in town, came in the fall of the same year, and settled on the place he yet occupies, about a hundred rods east of the spot on which his father resided. The latter died Feb. 11, 1853, aged sixty-three years, but his widow is yet living at the old place, and is now eighty-five years of age. Asa T. Pierce is also a native of Massachusetts (town of Rehoboth), his father moving into the State of New York while his son was a small boy, or not long subsequent to the year 1814. His wife, Mrs. A. T. Pierce, is a native of the town of De Kalb, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., in the famous "Black River Country," and came with her husband to Michigan in 1835, settling on section 32. The nearest house east of them was that of Morgan Baldwin, two miles away, and beyond that there were but two or three families in a distance of ten miles. Mr. Pierce and his wife, then both young, were much impressed with the gaudy trappings of the Indians, and their manners and customs, which were so novel to them, and their monotonous chant, as they passed by in single file, walking or riding, is vividly remembered.

Among the earlier settlers on the "Baldwin road" were the Odells and Leach's, and the following items, furnished by Mrs. William Odell, a daughter of Jeshurun Leach, will prove interesting:

"William Odell, from Southport, Tioga Co., N. Y., came to what is now the township of Mundy in the year 1834. The 6th day of December he purchased 160 acres of land from government. In March, 1835, he built a log house, and in April his mother came. He was then twenty-three years of age. In November, 1836, he was married to Miss Mary Sly, of Oakland County. He voted at the first town-meeting, and attended the first court held in Genesee County as petit juror. He has cleared 140 acres of his land, and still lives upon it. Has had ten children, of whom five are living. His wife died in August, 1872, and he is now living with his second wife, whose maiden name was Lois H. Leach. She came to Mundy in 1835, being then six years of age.

"Jeshurun Leach came from Ohio to what is now the township of Mundy in April, 1835. He was formerly from Clarence, Erie Co., N. Y. His family at the time he came consisted of his wife, three sons, and two daughters. He purchased 80 acres of land at \$1.25 per acre for his wife's sister, Mrs. Conant, who came with her family the following June. Mr. Leach did much towards improving the country while here. Was one of the first voters in the township. In October, 1837, he returned with his family (to which had been added one more son) to Ohio. In April, 1843, Mrs. Leach returned to Mundy (Mr. Leach and the oldest daughter having died in Ohio) with five sons and two daughters, the youngest two born while in Ohio. The youngest daughter died soon after; the rest lived to act in various capacities. Several school districts in the township remember them as teachers, the oldest three sons and the daughter having taught. The second son, D. C. Leach, taught as many as twelve terms in the Baldwin district. He was in the State Legislature, and was also sent from the Sixth Congressional District two terms as member of Congress. He is now in Springfield, Mo. The eldest son, M. L. Leach, has been a practicing physician in Clinton County for more than twenty years. A. J. Leach, the third son, has settled in Nebraska. William H., the fourth son, who was a Methodist minister, died in 1876. The youngest son, W. H., has settled in Kalkaska Co., Mich. The only remaining daughter is the present wife of William Odell, of Mundy. Mrs. Leach died in 1872."

Mrs. Odell mentions that her father (Mr. Leach) used to go to Pontiac to mill, and on one occasion heard her mother say they were out of flour. She suddenly imagined herself very hungry, but felt better after her father procured some flour of George Judson. At one time provisions were so scarce that the family lived for two weeks on potatoes and salt.

It was not unusual for an Indian to come in and lie by the fire during a cold night, and, as the latch-string was always out, their red neighbors came as they pleased. The children knew not the feeling of fear in the presence of the Indians. Fisher, the chief, is described as being a noble specimen of his race.

Hon. D. C. Leach, who for a number of years resided at Traverse City, Mich., is now living at Springfield, Mo., where he is engaged in the publishing business, being editor and proprietor of the *Patriot Advertiser*. In his connection with the *Grand Traverse Herald* before leaving

Michigan he won distinction among the journalists of the State.

John Remington, living near Mundy Centre, although but a short time a resident of this town, settled in Grand Blanc in 1834, and lived there until 1865, holding numerous important offices.

It is related of Dr. Josiah Alger that at one time when provisions were very scarce in his neighborhood, and the settlers were glad even to gather cowslips and use them for greens, he made occasional trips to Pontiac, and brought back supplies of necessary provisions, and dealt them out to those who had neither money nor food, while those having funds he told to get what they wanted at the same place he did. As a remarkable case of ingratitude, it is stated that some of the poorer ones, who afterwards had plenty of money, never remunerated the doctor for his kindness in their hour of need.

The following "Reminiscences of Early Michigan" were furnished for the *Fenton Gazette* by W. I. Williams, of Mundy, and published in that paper in the spring of 1871. They are descriptive principally of the experiences of the family during their residence of four years in Saginaw County, before coming to Mundy, yet are applicable to all cases of pioneer life, as those who participated in the scenes of forty and fifty years ago will readily acknowledge. The experience was, generally, nearly the same,—the actors only were different. Mr. Williams' article is as follows:

"I have often thought that, could every one having any experience, practically, of pioneer life in Michigan, be prevailed upon to furnish a written statement of those experiences, all, compiled in book-form, would make one of the most interesting works of the kind in existence.

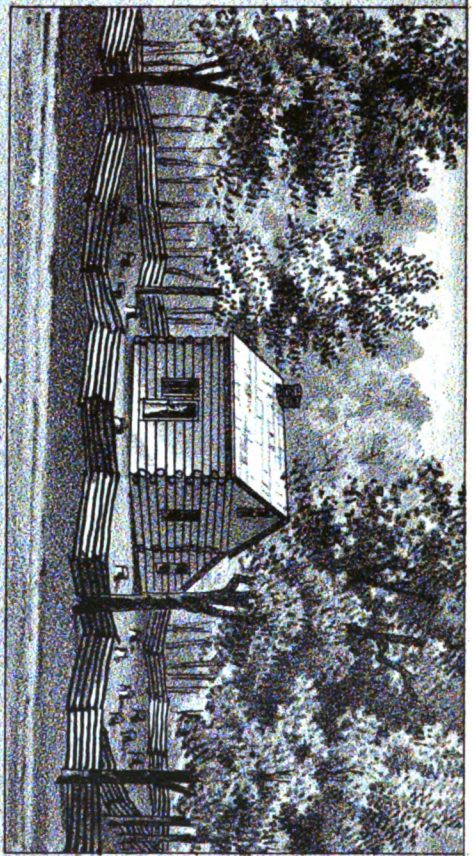
"How often do we dwell, more or less, upon scenes of early days, in our commonplace lives, where all has been smooth and placid, with naught to 'trouble or make afraid,' or drive us from the even tenor of our ways! How much more, then, should the vivid imaginations of the early settlers of Michigan be interested in the past,—those recollections of early life in a new country, often beset with difficulties and dangers connected with the hardships incident to a pioneer life in the wilderness! . . .

"Living in the State of New York, in 1835, when a mere lad, I often heard strange stories of the wilds of Michigan,—of its Indians, wolves, and bears,—little dreaming that my experiences in after-life would be so closely allied with its interests. Well do I recollect the excitement of moving to Michigan, in the fall of 1836, and a brief sketch of the journey may not be uninteresting. My step-father hired a man with his team to move us and our household goods to Buffalo, a distance of sixty miles or more, starting from Mount Morris, Livingston Co., on or about the middle of September. We stayed two nights on the road, and after a tedious journey of three days over rough and muddy roads, we arrived at the port of Buffalo just in time to take passage on the steamer 'Governor Marcy,' which plied between Buffalo and Saginaw every two weeks, and which many of the early settlers of Michigan will probably recollect. Nothing occurred worthy of notice except a good deal of sea-sickness on Lake Erie (which, by the way, is about the stormiest of all the lakes), until we arrived at





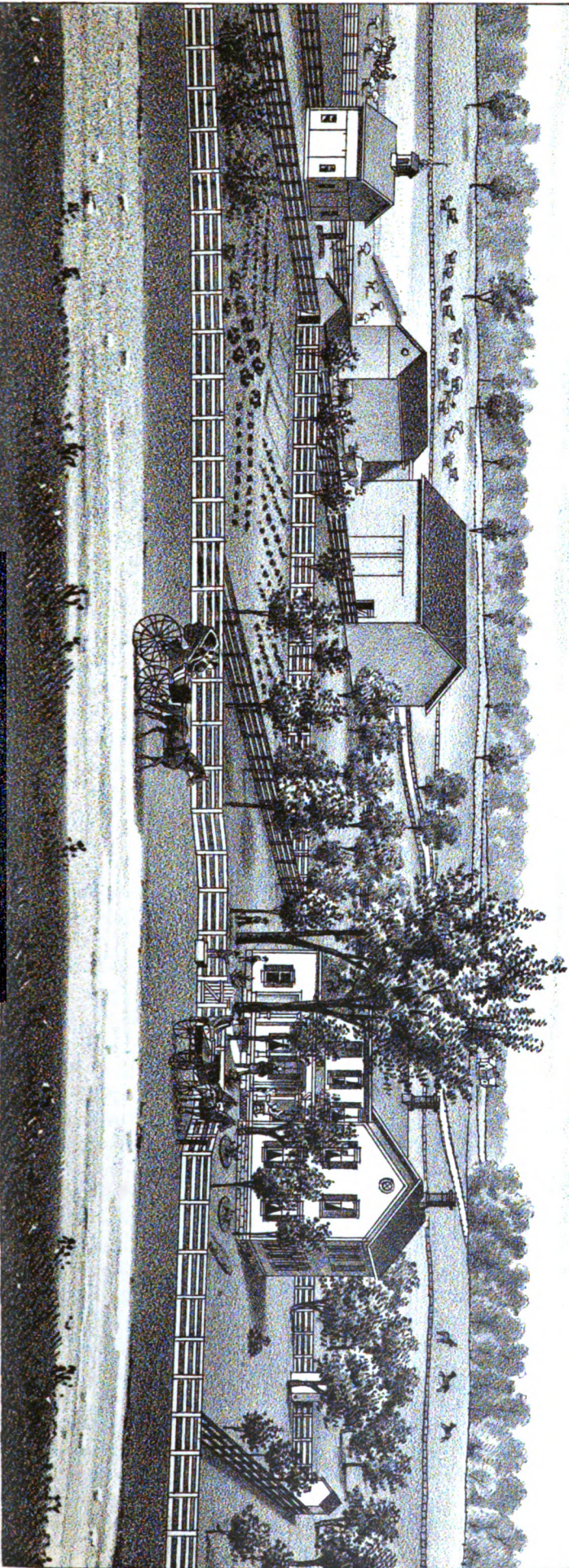
MRS. WM. I. WILLIAMS.



OLD HOME.



WM. I. WILLIAMS.



RESIDENCE OF WM. I. WILLIAMS, MUNDY, MICHIGAN.





Detroit, where we stopped for wood and passengers, and had a chance to see what there was of the City of the Straits. It was then; comparatively speaking, a small village by the side of its present dimensions, with but one business street of any importance, buildings mostly of wood, and small at that. While lying at the wharf, a negro, black as the ace of spades, left the boat with a large satchel in hand, and soon after a general stir was made to find him. A new overcoat belonging to one of the officers was missing, and the theft was laid to him, which proved to be true, as a general search brought him to light with the missing overcoat done up compactly in his large satchel. The negro showed some fight, which gathered quite a crowd on the quay, but he was soon brought under by putting the irons on his wrists and marching him off to jail, where he was probably dwelt with according to law. Thus ended quite an exciting scene to my boyish imagination.

"All went well as we continued our voyage until we arrived near the entrance of Saginaw Bay, when a severe northeaster came swooping down upon us, making every timber in the old ship creak and tremble, while many a stout heart quailed under the threatenings of the fearful tempest. Towards the close of the day preceding that fearful night there was strong talk among the passengers that the captain should put about for port, but he still kept on his course, regardless of the warring elements. We had strong hopes of weathering the storm, now we were so near our port of destination, but with increasing fury the wild storm sped, and, when nearly midnight, the violence of the gale forced our captain to return back to port, where we arrived next morning. The turning back was often spoken of as a critical moment in our existence, as we turned on the top of a huge wave, when, if we had turned in a trough of the sea, the probabilities are that none would have lived to tell the tale. But the horrors of that fearful storm, together with the wailings of anguish which rose above the howling of the tempest, will never be erased from my memory. The scenes of that dismal night of storm, dark and rainy; the loud cries of those bewailing their hapless fate, and wishing themselves on shore; and often when some bold dash of the elements, more furious than common, would override all barriers, and deluge the innermost cabin to the tune of ankle-deep in water,—then you might hear, far above the roar of wind and water, the cries and wailings of the distressed, calling on the good Lord to deliver them out of the depths of the sea in all the agony of a broken and contrite spirit. Well do I recollect my sensations as I lay crosswise the boat in my berth, holding on to a stanchion for dear life, as the old boat careened first to one side and then the other, describing the various gradations of an inclined plane with my head and feet. One of the eccentricities of our captain I will have to relate, although it may not be much to his credit. He was a very still sort of personage as a general rule, rather rotund in form, apparently given to good living, as well as good drinking; you would think, to see him, there was (to use a common phrase), not much snap about him; but when the storm broke upon us, a new spirit seemed to take possession of him. With oaths more dreadful than the storm itself to the tired sailors, his pent-up tongue was let loose with voluminous imprecations on

God and man, while with stentorian lungs he gave his commands about ship, and the louder the storm or the wailings of the fearful, still above all you could hear his all-powerful commands, efficiently setting the ship to rights; but when the storm had ceased, the spell was broken, and once more the calm and placid serenity of manner, before noticed, had spread its mantle upon him.

"After the storm on Saginaw Bay we arrived the next day safely in the harbor of Fort Gratiot. Here we had to lay over until the next morning, for some slight repairs and the lulling of the storm, which had been quite severe on all the lakes. Some few of our goodly company left us here to make the balance of the journey by land, feeling quite averse to a renewal of the preceding night's 'unpleasantness.' Here we had a chance to look about the premises, and, it being quite a pleasant day, the most of the passengers made good use of our delay in seeing the sights about the fort and vicinity. Long rows of bristling cannon, recently painted black, run out from under their rough sheds to dry, made things look quite warlike, and to those of us who never saw anything of the kind before, the sight was quite interesting. Each row of cannon had a number of soldiers on duty to guard them, and many times through the day would they have to speak sharply to some of the boys, whose curiosity demanded a closer inspection, to keep 'hands off,' and not a few had black hands to show for their pains. After a few days' sojourn on *terra firma*, the most of the passengers had regained somewhat their wonted equilibrium, and the pleasant weather, succeeding so severe a storm, made them feel more courageous in regard to renewing their journey by water. The next morning, on awaking, the thumping of machinery and noise about the decks told us that we were once more on our journey. The bright sun overhead, and a steady breeze from off shore, gave us high hopes of reaching our place of destination without again coming in contact with nature's warring elements. We had a pleasant day running up the bay, as near the land as was prudent, often looking with spy-glasses at the native Indians, gathered about their wigwams, watching the 'big canoe,' or roaming the forest in all its pristine loveliness. The weather towards night changed somewhat, and we had the first snow of the season just as we were entering the mouth of Saginaw River. It turned to rain in the evening. Our journey up the river was rather dismal than otherwise,—the snow and the extensive marshes for miles inland, covered with water, looking more like a lake than a river,—with no human habitation on either shore to break the monotony of the scene. Some few miles below Saginaw City, all hands, as well as passengers, were called on deck to help get the boat adrift, as we had run out of the main channel and stuck in the sand. First to one side of the boat and then the other we were all ordered to run at the word of command, while the opposite wheel would turn a few strokes each time, helping us to *wiggle* the boat, like some huge anaconda, through the sand. After an hour's struggle, where all got some tired,—although having considerable merriment at each other's expense,—some tumbling about like porpoises, as the boat careened nearly on her beam ends, we finally shoved into deep water and steamed on our course, by where East Saginaw now

stands (which, by the way, was a howling wilderness down to the water's edge), and soon arrived at the only dock in Saginaw City. A sightly place indeed to be called a city! A clearing in the woods, extending in area perhaps two hundred rods back from the river, and about three hundred in length, with a very few houses,—a large majority of which were log, or block, as some were called, being made of hewn timber, with port-holes, and the frame houses small and inconvenient.

"We landed Oct. 1, 1836, having been nearly eight days in making the passage from Buffalo, and you may suppose that it was a great relief to many anxious hearts when we arrived; for all, more or less, had friends, relatives, and acquaintances whom they were anxiously expecting on this boat, which was the only one then plying between Saginaw and Buffalo, making the trip generally in two weeks. As we landed the whole city turned out *en masse* to welcome us, offering us the best hospitalities it afforded, and its free range—if we had a mind—afoot in the mud. As it was about the time that cities generally lighted up their gas, we looked in vain for any intimation of such a state of things, except what was bandied between the crew and some jolly fellows on shore. It was said we were a city within a city, for the population aboard the boat numbered nearly as many as those on shore, there being about thirty families. The boat had brought up quite a number of influential men—men of capital—representing the most of the real valuation of the city, and speculators in lands of the surrounding country. This great addition to the place in population and capital bade fair to make it one of the most thriving cities of the then far West. Thriving, I say, and safely so, for who ever heard of a city doubling its population in so short a time? Among those most conspicuously governing its interests were the Littles, the Richmonds, the Millers, and a few other forehanded gentlemen, who came to make this their permanent abiding-place. But the main question was, after we had all debarked, Where are we going to lodge? Where are all the taverns?—the Metropolitan, the National, the Waverley, anywhere to get out of the pitiless storm that was drenching us to the hide? In vain we listened for runners to these different hotels, but we soon had the unwelcome assurance that there were none, except the Saginaw Hotel, and there we proceeded, tramp, tramp, through the mud ankle-deep, and soon arrived at—what? A common double block-house, the only tavern in the city. The old stockade fort, with its heavy-built block-houses, were still in passable order, but rather on the decaying list, as might be noticed in the mossy roof and in the decayed pickets, here and there one falling over by its own weight. On a closer inspection you might see the traces of the leaden missiles that years before, perhaps, were sent with deadly intent, marring the houses and pickets in many places. One general dry-goods store, two or three groceries, one or two saloons, one steam saw-mill, and one log tavern constituted the principal places of business in the city.

"At the date of which I write there was no farming community of any importance settled about the vicinity of Saginaw, as that branch of industry was in its first stages of infancy. Consequently we had to depend almost entirely

on receiving our supplies of provisions from regular trips of the steamboat 'Governor Marcy,' which made the round-trip—generally—once in two weeks.

"At one time during the summer of 1837, some accident happening to the boat, its trip was delayed nearly four weeks, which caused nearly a famine in our community. Famine prices were necessarily prevalent, and glad was many a poor family if it had a potato even to still the appeals of hunger. More than one family was known to have dug up its seed potatoes after planting, so great were their necessities, to keep from starving. Some instances were known where they had planted potato-parings and were forced to exbume them to satisfy the demands of nature. Money seemed to be plenty among the business portion of the community, but that we could not eat, and a few who were dealers in provisions made small fortunes on what they had to sell. But when the boat did arrive, was there not a day of rejoicing? Some men in canoes brought the intelligence up the river, ahead of the boat, that she had been sighted on the bay, and such a turnout, according to the population, is seldom witnessed as that which gave them welcome. Provisions generally were about the following prices, to wit: \$15 per barrel for flour; \$40 per barrel for pork; 75 cents per pound for butter; \$1.50 for potatoes; and other things in proportion. So, you perceive, it wanted no small capital to set up housekeeping in the line of the necessaries of life.

"This was about the period when 'wild-cat banks' were plenty, and speculations of all kinds were in vogue on the high-pressure principle. Especially was this the case in real estate. Agents were continually sent East with the avowed intention of swindling the Eastern capitalists out of their money, and the chief outfit of an agent would be his map of Saginaw City, or perhaps a map of some imaginary city gotten up for the occasion, penciled and colored in the highest style of perfection that art could produce, showing the many hundreds of blocks and streets you might search for in vain, even with a map and compass,—not forgetting a guide,—for you would be likely to find some of the best pictured avenues or blocks an hour's walk in the dense forest, where you would need some expert to guide you out into the sunlight. And so it was in numerous instances where there was not the least foundation for such a swindling operation. Some 'very eligible' sites were located on the extensive marshes lining the shores of Saginaw River, and you might search for them in almost any season of the year, and there would be nothing to be seen but one wide expanse of water. But the excitement of speculation was in its zenith, and many a fortune was made easily by the sharpers of the day in duping Eastern men who had taken the Western fever, which nothing but a step off into one of their imaginary streets would cure. It was rather laughable, sometimes, to see a trio of Eastern men starting out on a voyage of discovery, with canoes and guides, in quest of real estate, and more so to see them on their return, chopfallen and disheartened, though putting the best face they could on the matter, hoping to dupe some one else to get their money back; and instances were known where they doubled on their money instead of losing.

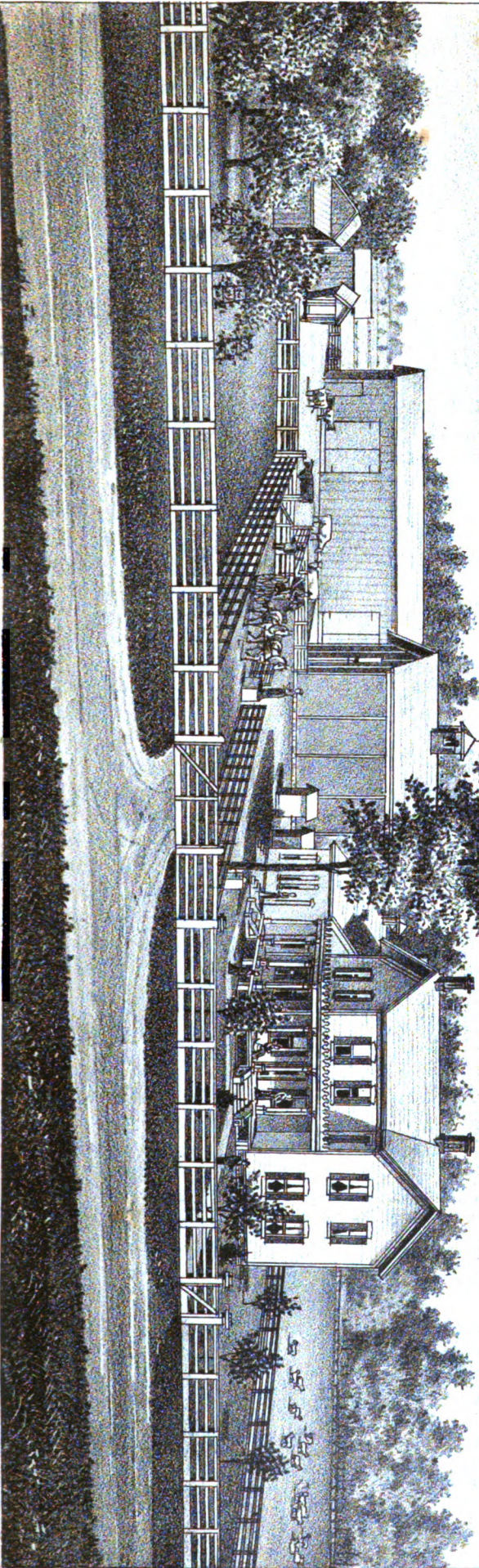




JOHN L. JENNINGS.



MRS. JOHN L. JENNINGS



RESIDENCE OF JOHN L. JENNINGS, MUNDY, MICH.





"Under the wild-cat excitement Saginaw must needs have a bank, and men and money were on hand in plenty to invest in the speculation. The denomination of twenty-five dollars was to be called a share, and it was within the reach of all to participate to some extent. But the speculation, after running a few months, culminated in the absorption of the little fish by the larger ones,—the 'busting' of the bank,—and some one made money out of it. So ended the first experiment of the banking system in Saginaw City. At that time the place looked very well, as far as the site was concerned, from the river for perhaps a half-mile back, when it degenerated into a rather low, wet, and heavy-timbered country, where one commodity was easily raised by simply presenting your card in person, viz.: *mosquitoes*. When planting-time came it was a common practice to wear gloves and veils, and have them well tied on, or it was impossible for human nature to stand the pressure. While speaking of the natives of the forest I will give you a short chapter on wolves. It was nothing uncommon, almost any evening, to listen to a serenade from their melodious throats, and as they could be heard the whole length and breadth of the city, the music was rather too cheap to be popular. Many an evening, while their melodious voices were in full concert, have I sat and listened to highly-wrought pictures of their ferocity and deadly encounters with some of the first settlers as well as Indians, which would make one's hair seem to stand on end. The first day after our arrival, towards evening, having just moved into a house near the suburbs of the city, our people saw something they took to be a dog, resting its forepaws on a log some ten rods from the door, but which some of the neighbors, who happened to be present, told us was a wolf,—a rather early call on neighbors, we thought, before we could get settled. While living at Saginaw, which was nearly four years, my step-father caught about a dozen in large traps, which I used to go with him to set just in the edge of the woods, and many an exciting time did we have in dispatching them. On going near them, when fast in the trap, they would look sneaking enough, and would hardly make the least resistance while we dispatched them with hand-spikes.

"I recollect one large gray wolf which we had trapped and killed, and which we brought up to the door as usual and laid down on the doorstep, caused quite an excitement among the bystanders who happened to be present. A large cat happening to pass by the wolf and smell of it, some one of the company picked it up and threw it with full force on the wolf as it lay stretched at full length in front of the door, upon which the wolf immediately sprang up, as with a new life, gave a leap in the air, and with one long-drawn sigh breathed his last. You can readily guess there was a scattering among the curious who stood immediately over, and some screeching among the ladies, who were considerably frightened.

"There was one very large wolf which we caught in the trap, and concluded to take him bodily to town for a show while alive, to receive the bounty, which I believe was \$8. So we got some bark for cords, and after lassoing him around the nose he gave up completely, while we bound him securely; then, running a long pole between his legs and under the thongs, carried him in triumph to the city.

After interviewing him to their hearts' content, some of the citizens, who had lost quite heavily by the devouring nature of him and his brethren, concluded to make an example of him. So, after making up a purse to replace the bounty, which could not be drawn from the State unless the wolf was killed, they commenced to treat poor Mr. Wolf after the manner of the barbarous savage. First they cut off his ears close to his head, next his tail close to his body, otherwise making him look as hideous and unlike himself as it was in their power to invent; then they put on his neck a loud-sounding cow-bell and sent him on his way rejoicing (they, not he) to 'see his friends once more.' It is hardly possible to conceive the alteration made in his looks, and I am sure his most intimate friends would not have recognized him. The result was the wolves were cleaned out of the adjoining forests for a long time afterwards. About six months afterwards the famished remains of a wolf with a bell on were found in the edge of a clearing in the city."

In the spring of 1840 the writer of the foregoing, William Ira Williams, came from Saginaw in company with his mother and step-father, Arden Moses, the family locating on a rented farm in Grand Blanc. In the spring of 1842 they settled on a farm in the north part of Mundy township, now owned by John L. Jennings. Mr. Moses died a few weeks later, and in the fall of the same year the family moved south to a location on the Baldwin road, half a mile east of Mr. Williams' present residence. Mrs. Williams, Sr., is yet living. Her son purchased the farm he now owns in the winter of 1849-50, and made upon it the first clearing at the corners, except a lot which had been made ready to build a school-house upon in 1847.

Mr. Williams prepared a considerable amount of cooper-stuff from timber which grew upon his place, made a part of his tools and bought others, *learned the trade alone*, and worked at it some six years. He now has a finely-improved farm, and in connection with it is keeping the Mundy post-office and a small general store. He has written to considerable extent for the press of the county, and aspired to poetical fame with greater success than have many who inflict their effusions of poor rhyme and bad grammar upon publishers. By reference to the list of township officers it will be seen that he has been the recipient of numerous official favors from the hands of his townsmen. Although yet comparatively young, there are few in the township who have better-improved farms, and none, perhaps, who are better or more influential citizens.

The following poem, by Mr. Williams, was read by the author at one of the meetings of the Genesee Pioneer Society:

#### THE PIONEER.

Once more, my friends, we meet again on this our *festal* day,  
To talk of scenes of early youth and trials by the way  
When first the wilds of Genesee by white men's feet were trod—  
When first our cabin-walls were reared, when first we broke the sod.

We love to dwell upon these scenes, though often some were sad,  
While others oftentimes in their ebeens have made our spirits glad.  
Then let us talk together of those days now past and gone,  
While distance fresh enchantment lends to feed our minds upon.

When first with axe in brawny hands we felled those oaks of yore,  
We little dreamed this fruitful land, so plentiful in store,

Would be our happy lot to own, which blossoms as the rose,  
And brings us what our toil has won—a prosperous repose.

When first we cleared the crooked roads that led us to our doors,  
And chinked the logs with basswood, of which we made our floors,—  
Twas then we sang our merriest songs to keep our spirits up,  
While the spirits that we drank those days were from the brook and  
cup.

With coat thrown off and sleeves rolled up, we grappled with the  
work,  
While throughout all this goodly land you found no lazy shirk,  
But all with one accord endured the hardships of the day,  
And night's refreshing sleep would chase all gloomy thoughts away.

'Twas then with hearty relish the pork and beans went down,  
With johnny-cake in plenty, all done so nicely brown.  
Oh yes, those days were happy ones, without a sorrowing tear,  
When first we felled the forest, a hardy pioneer.

'Twas then the partners of our joys, with ever-ready hands,  
Would help to pile and burn the brush and poke the burning brands;  
And oft with song and words of hope would fill our hearts with cheer,  
That made us glad we undertook to be a pioneer.

Our children, fat and ragged as seldom children are,  
With freedom roamed the forests and plucked the cowslips fair  
With which we eked our scanty store, while oft the timid deer  
At the crack of our trusty rifles would fill our homes with cheer.

Our smoke-house was the chimney-top, our chimney mud and sticks,  
With wall and hearth of clay and stone, for want of better bricks.  
Our roof was covered o'er with bark, held firmly down with poles;  
Our bakery the ashes, whence came the sweetest rolls.

Then, as we cleared our homesteads and let the sky-light in,  
It made us think of youthful homes, where all our past had been,  
And as the opening widened, with vigorous nerve and hand  
We'd roll together ponderous logs to clear the goodly land.

And often, as the shade of night its sable mantle spread,  
We'd kindle bonfires to give us light to bow the forest's head;  
And often in the gloaming would you hear the deafening sound,  
When the lofty oak would tremble, and then come thundering down;

While wife and children merrily would cheer us on our way,  
Knowing full well the darkest night would lengthen into day.  
Then, when the rich and blackened ground was ready for the seed,  
With axe instead of hoe we'd plant the corn for winter's need;

For many a mile of crooked road we'd have to travel o'er,  
If industry should fail to give to us the bounteous store.  
Yet still we fought on manfully to do our humble part,  
While joy and sorrow often mingled in the peasant's heart.

But through them all we often saw the placid seas beyond,  
Which gave our strength new energy, and bade us not despond;  
For oftimes in the future would we see the welcome light  
That came to us in prophecy, and made our hearts delight.

How well do we remember that dear old brindle cow  
Which gave us milk, and raised those steers to which we hitched the  
plow;

That drew our wood, our fallows logged and helped us many a time;  
And the boys would strive to see which should drive the oxen—Duke  
and Dime.

And often when the bright moon shone would we hitch to the wood-  
shod sleigh

- To visit some near neighbor, perhaps five miles away;  
While the glistening trees with splendor shone, and childhood's happy  
shout,  
With happiness o'ersurging, went merrily ringing out.

How happy were those visits!—and we often made them o'er,  
And which were oft returned again—by which we set much store.  
Thus, mingling oft together, we cheered each other on,  
When taking from each other's hopes would bid our cares begone.

Though oft through many a care-worn path we trod the walks of life,  
We had no neighbors' gossip, no neighbors' feud nor strife,—  
No jarring nor discordant notes to give our bliss alloy,  
For all was peace and unity, which gave a genial joy.

And when new-comers sought our doors, latch-strings were always out,  
With hearty welcome to our fare, which never gave the gout;  
And often, with the compass as our only guide and friend,  
Would we look with them for future homes, a helping hand to lend.

How every man, with axe in hand, would hurry to the spot,  
When told that a new-comer needed help to raise his cot,—  
When logging-bees were plenty, and huskings all the go,  
And youngsters tripped, with merry zeal, the light fantastic toe.

Oh, yes, those days were happy ones, the thoughts of which still  
cheer—

When first we cleared the forests wild, a hardy pioneer.  
Indelibly those times of yore are stamped upon the mind,  
And who would e'er forget them? 'Twould not be human-kind.

So oft through many hardships the pioneer has passed,  
Till hopes, now in fruition, have come to him at last;  
And many of life's changes bright visions often seem,  
While early days of hardship are but a pleasant dream.

The wolf no more with fearful howl his nightly vigils keeps;  
No more the luring panther will wake you from your sleep.  
No more the savage war-cry shall give you harrowing fear,  
For such things long have given way to things of better cheer.

Instead, the church bell's welcome sound comes ringing through the  
air,

And noisy cars, with human freight, go hurrying here and there,—  
With the busy hum of thousands, which falls upon the ear,—  
But withal you still remember when you were a pioneer.

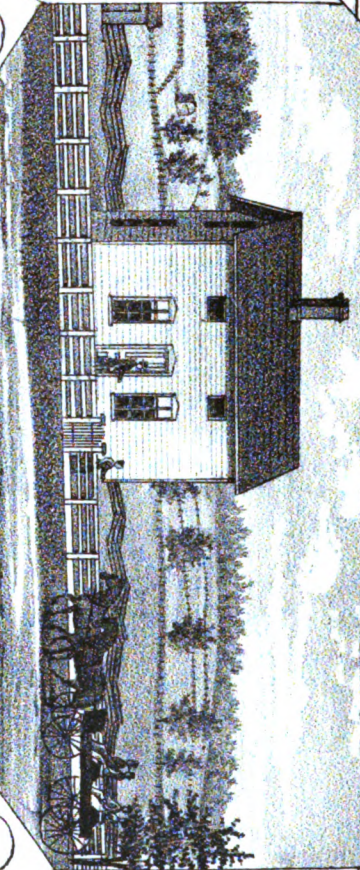
And once where nature's forests covered all this land,  
You now see towns and cities in their places stand,—  
And ask in wondrous awe,—who made such changes here?  
While we but answer truthfully, *the hardy pioneer.*

Nathan W. Sheldon, a native of Haddam, Conn., and afterwards a resident of the town of Le Roy, Genesee Co., N. Y., came to Michigan in 1835 and took up the land upon which his widow now resides. In 1836 he came again, cleared a small tract, and partly built a log house. An idea had entered the heads of some of the settlers that he was only a speculator, and it was with difficulty he could get help enough to raise his house. He moved here with his wife in October, 1838, arriving on the 26th of the month, and here has been the home of the family since that time. The log house was finished and occupied December 13th succeeding their arrival. During the interim they had lived with the family of Henry N. Thompson, next east of their own place. Mr. Thompson, who was a carpenter by trade, was then working in Highland, Oakland Co. Times were so hard that it was almost impossible to obtain provisions. As an example of the effect of Michigan food on the cattle the following will answer: Mr. Selden at one time bought of George Judson a quarter of beef, paying at the rate of seven dollars per hundred-weight, and from it Mrs. Selden procured but *two pounds of tallow!* Yet no one had any better, and people could not complain of being in worse circumstances in this respect than others. On one occasion the families of H. N. Thompson, Esquire Baldwin, and Daniel Brewer—the latter also an early settler in the neighborhood—had to put their provisions together in order to have enough for a meal, for neither

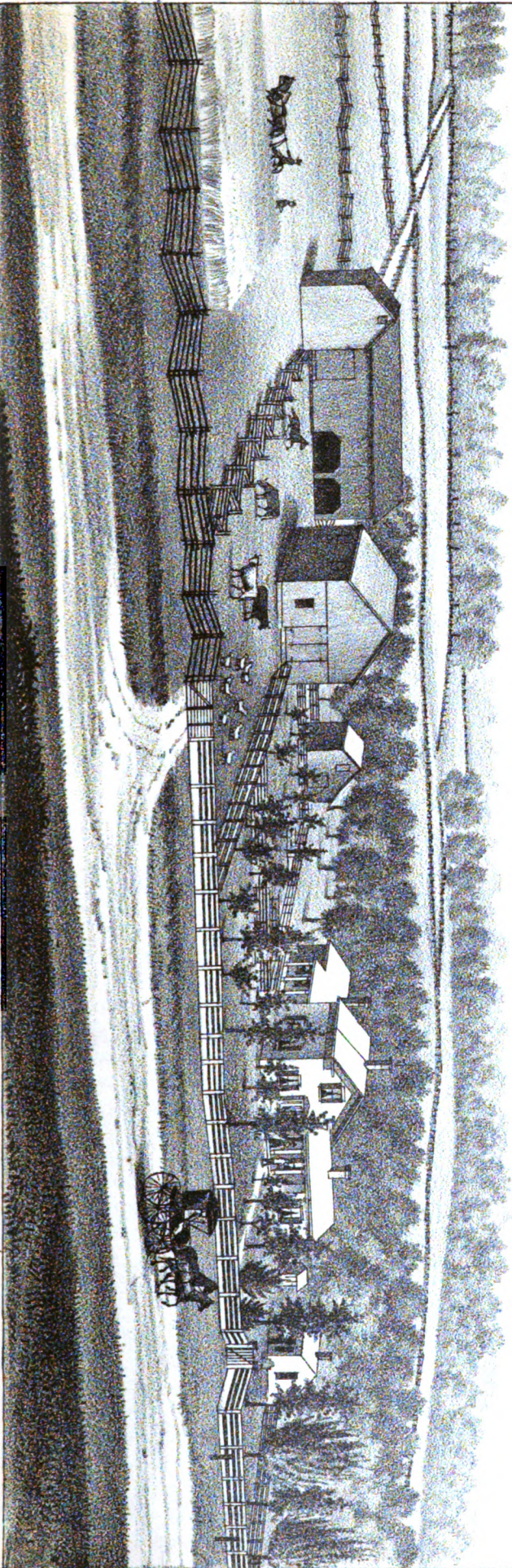




PETER HEMPSTED.



MRS. PETER HEMPSTED.



RESIDENCE OF PETER HEMPSTED, MUNDY, MICH.





had a sufficient quantity alone. Mr. Brewer, who had settled a little previous to 1838, afterwards returned to New York, but finally settled permanently in Michigan, in which State he died. Mr. Selden died in May, 1869.

For the first two or three years after coming here the times for all the settlers were the hardest. Dr. Alger, on one of his missions of mercy, went to Pontiac and bought several barrels of Indian meal,—a portion of it sour, which mattered not to the hungry,—and out of the whole used but two messes in his own family, having distributed it among his suffering neighbors. Mr. Selden was known to have sent to Fenton, Flint, Grand Blanc, Highland, and even to Pontiac, for tea, but without success, nor could he get it any place nearer than Detroit.

John Thompson, from Cayuga Co., N. Y., came to Michigan in 1841 and located in the township of Convis, Calhoun Co., where he lived until 1843, working at his trade (that of a mason) part of the time in Battle Creek, where he helped build the first brick building. In the latter year he removed to Mundy and settled on the place where he now lives, section 26. He purchased of Maxwell Thompson, now of Fenton, and the latter had purchased the place from Cornelius Bray, who had entered it in October, 1835, cleared about 7 acres, and built a log house. Bray became dissatisfied and returned to New York. Mr. Thompson helped build the first brick house in Genesee County,\*—a small brick school-house on Chauncey Paine's lots on the north side of the river at Flint. Hazelton's brick block, on Saginaw Street, was built the same season. Mr. Thompson continued to work at his trade until about 1876, since which time his whole attention has been paid to his farm.√

John Slaght, a native of New Jersey, and later a resident of Seneca Co., N. Y., to which he moved in 1802, has lived in Mundy since June, 1847, and is now in his eighty-ninth year. During the war of 1812 he belonged to an independent rifle company, which "went out to the lines." Mr. Slaght, who had been badly poisoned in his limbs, was unable to follow them until two weeks later.

Mr. Slaght's sons—Dr. Andrew Slaght, of Grand Blanc, and his brother, Joseph Slaght—had come to Hillsdale County the previous spring, and the rest of the family came the following winter.

Peter Hempstead, from Genesee Co., N. Y., came to Mundy in December, 1843, and settled on the place where he now lives, having previously resided several years in Grand Blanc. He married there the widow of James H. Beebe, who settled in Grand Blanc about a year after Mr. Hempstead had come, or in 1836. Mr. Beebe and his wife had lived a short time in Ohio. Mr. Hempstead's father also settled in Grand Blanc, living near Whigville.†

Jason F. Allen came with his family from Mendon, Monroe Co., N. Y., to Genesee County in 1837, and settled in the township of Burton. He had previously lived in Livingston Co., N. Y. In 1843 he came to Mundy and purchased a farm north of his present residence, a part of which he still owns. He made the first improvements upon it, and has only lived upon his present place since about

1862. The latter was originally settled by Mithra J. Barrett several years before Mr. Allen came to the township. Barrett committed suicide on the place by cutting his throat.

John Richards, from the State of New Jersey, settled in Grand Blanc some time previous to 1840, and subsequently moved into Mundy, where he held numerous offices. His son, David Richards, is a resident of the town of Richfield, in this county.

William Richards, father of the present town clerk, was also from the State of New Jersey, and a nephew of John Richards, above mentioned. He came to Grand Blanc with his family about 1846-47, and after two years removed to Mundy, settling on the farm now owned by A. Bigelow, northeast of Mundy Centre. He lived there about eleven years, and then removed to the farm where his son, Philetus Richards, now lives, and finally to the place his son, John Richards, now occupies. He died in the fall of 1873. When he located on the present Bigelow farm he made the first clearing upon it, and built a log house a short distance south of where Bigelow's present residence stands.

Henry H. Howland, a native of the town of Ira, Rutland Co., Vt., moved with his father to Monroe Co., N. Y., when very young, and when but nine years old went with the family to Middleport, Niagara Co., in the same State, his father removing to that place. In the fall of 1829, Mr. Howland emigrated to Michigan, and settled in Troy, Oakland Co. His father was a soldier of 1812, and his grandfather a veteran of the Revolution. In 1836 he purchased land in Mundy, went back to New York after his wife, and, owing to her sickness, was obliged to stay there until March, 1837, when they came on to their home in the forest. Their nearest neighbor at that time was the widow Simmons, who had moved in with one daughter and three sons,—Cyrenus, Benjamin, and Lowell Simmons. Some of the family afterwards became involved in the counterfeiting business, and were obliged to leave the neighborhood.

Mrs. Howland's father, Peter Van Tiffin,—now living in Grand Blanc, aged eighty-three years,—occupies the same farm he took from the government. When he settled there he had to procure his flour and provisions at Detroit. One of his sons, Reuben Van Tiffin, is a prominent citizen of Flint, and another son, William, lives in the township of Mundy.

In 1838, Mr. Howland raised some corn on his place, and when it was ripe shelled out a bushel and a half, took it on his back, carried it to John Cook's "pepper-mill," at Long Lake,—eight miles away,—and, on arriving, found he could not get it ground for some time; so he left it there, started homeward, and borrowed 79 pounds of flour at a house one mile on his way, and carried it home. The way the family relished a portion of it when cooked will undoubtedly never be forgotten by them.

In October, 1837, Mr. Howland was summoned to Flint on county business, and walked up in the morning without a cent in his pocket, sat there all day, and walked home at night in time to do his chores.

In the matter of opening and working highways, Mr. Howland has perhaps done more work than any other man in the township. Samuel Dibble and John Newton were

\* So Mr. Thompson was told at the time.

† Information by Mrs. Hempstead.

also influential in that direction, and these three acted as chief movers in building excellent highways throughout the township. Of this trio of sturdy and enterprising citizens Mr. Howland is the sole survivor.

When Mr. Howland came with his family he moved up from the south and stopped with Josiah Alger until the 5th of April, when his log shanty was near enough finished to serve as a habitation, although it had neither doors nor floor.

Samuel Dibble came to the township about 1839, took up land where Henry Hill now lives, and settled upon it. He was a native of Connecticut, but had moved here from Hudson, Columbia Co., N. Y. He started with a wagon-load of goods to peddle, and, on arriving in Michigan, chose to locate. He was then unmarried. On one occasion, while hunting land, he lost his way in the woods, and climbed a tree in order to ascertain where he was. He afterwards married and settled, and his widow is now living east of Mr. Howland.

Henry Hill and his father, Darius G. Hill, came to the township in the fall of 1839. The elder Hill bought land of Chauncey Simmons, and made the first improvements upon it. He was quite prominent in the township, and both he and his wife died on their farm, on section 10. Henry Hill is yet living in the township.

The next farm east of the Hill place was located by Josiah Chatfield, who settled in June, 1837. He and his wife both died here. His son, Cyrus G. Chatfield, is one of the prominent citizens of the township, and his daughter is now the widow of Alvah Bigelow.

Jacob Bentley, who lived still farther east, settled a few days before Mr. Howland came, and Charles Wilcox came some time later, and settled on the farm adjoining Bentley's on the east.

Smith Titus purchased land south of Mr. Howland the same day with the latter, but never settled upon it. It was afterwards taken by some Frenchmen,—Peter Coquigne and his son-in-law, Francis Larobardierre. They stopped at first on section 1, where they cleared up 240 acres of land for a man named Baldwin, and with the money thus earned purchased the land above mentioned. They came soon after 1840, and were in very destitute circumstances, having scarcely anything save a yoke of oxen. They have been prosperous during their residence here, however, and are worthy citizens.

Bradbury Eastman settled opposite the Bentley place as early as 1837-38, and he and his wife both died in the township.

John Newton purchased land of H. H. Howland in 1838, and settled next east of the latter, on section 4. His wife and Mr. Howland's first wife (who died in 1838) were sisters. Of the family two children are left, one son—George—occupying the old farm, and a daughter teaching in the high-school at Flint.

Bildad Hodge and his son William lived in 1838 a mile south of Howland's Corners. Both are now deceased. A grandson is a resident of the township. Old Mrs. Hodge fell in the fire and received injuries which caused her death. Her husband was a man of much intelligence and ability, but the demon of strong drink obtained possession of his

faculties, and he was too often seen under the influence of some one of the various distilled poisons in use at that day.

A man named Nelson bought land on section 2, and settled upon it in the spring of 1838. None of the family now live in town, and the farm is divided among other persons.

Jonathan G. Firman was one of the earlier settlers in the northeast part of the township, where he was living in 1835.

The Indians who lived in Mundy and owned property finally sold out. Some of them are now living in Gaines township. Others went to Pewonigawink, and some to Shiawassee. There were about two hundred of them in Mundy at one time, and they owned altogether about 160 acres of land. Of this amount Fisher, the chief, owned 40 acres. They gave as a reason for leaving, that there were "*too many white folks—kill all muskrat.*"

#### "PODUNK."

In 1844 a raceway was cut through from Long Lake, passing across the farm of George Judson, the water finally finding its way into tributaries of Swartz Creek. On Mr. Judson's place an oil well was built by David L. Latourette, who then lived at the head of Long Lake, in Fenton township. The business of manufacturing linsced oil was conducted with varying success for a year or more. Other parties succeeded Latourette, among them Smith & Griswold and George C. Thorp. After several years the building was converted into a grist-mill by Edward Thorp. It was finally abandoned, and none is now in operation in the locality, called "Podunk," which euphonious title is ever ready to be applied to places of equal importance.

#### OLD TAVERNS.

Along the old plank road from Fenton to Flint which formed the eastern boundary of the township for four miles were built at an early date numerous taverns. The one known as "Mason's Tavern" stood on the southeast corner of section 13, and for many years was owned and conducted by Daniel Mason and his brother. It was flourishing finely some time previous to 1850. Daniel Mason now lives in Flint, and a Mr. Todd owns the property.

"Reed's Tavern," on the northeast corner of section 13, was built considerably later, by John Reed, now deceased. He was an early settler in the township. His family lives opposite the old tavern in Grand Blanc township.

A tavern was built on the southeast corner of section 17 in the summer of 1867, by Solomon Bloss, who moved here that spring from Saratoga Co., N. Y. Mr. Bloss is now deceased, and the building is no longer kept as a tavern, although occupied by his family.

#### POST-OFFICES.

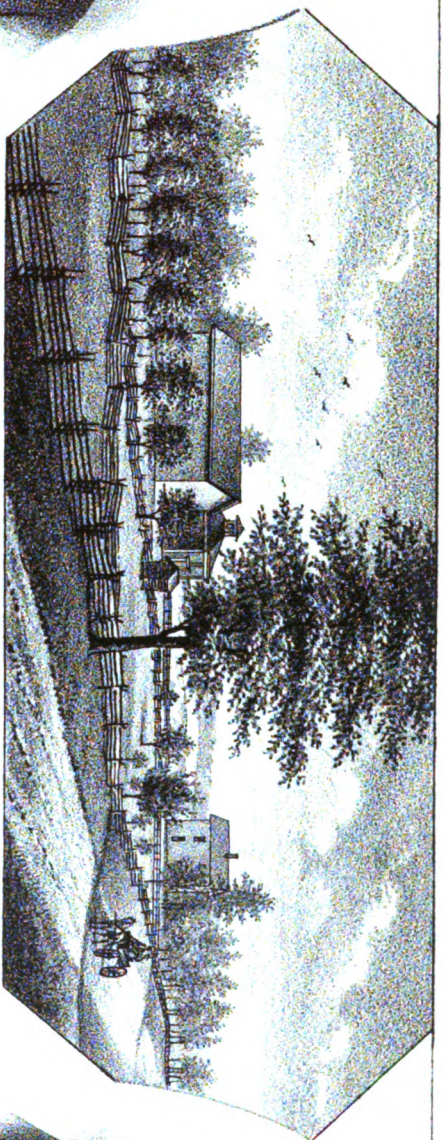
A post-office called "Elgin" at one time existed in the eastern part of town, and was kept at Mason's tavern. After the Flint and Père Marquette Railway was completed, the line of stages which had long run between Fenton and Flint was taken off, and the office was discontinued.

About 1845 an office was established in Fenton township, north of Long Lake, and called "Long Lake Post-

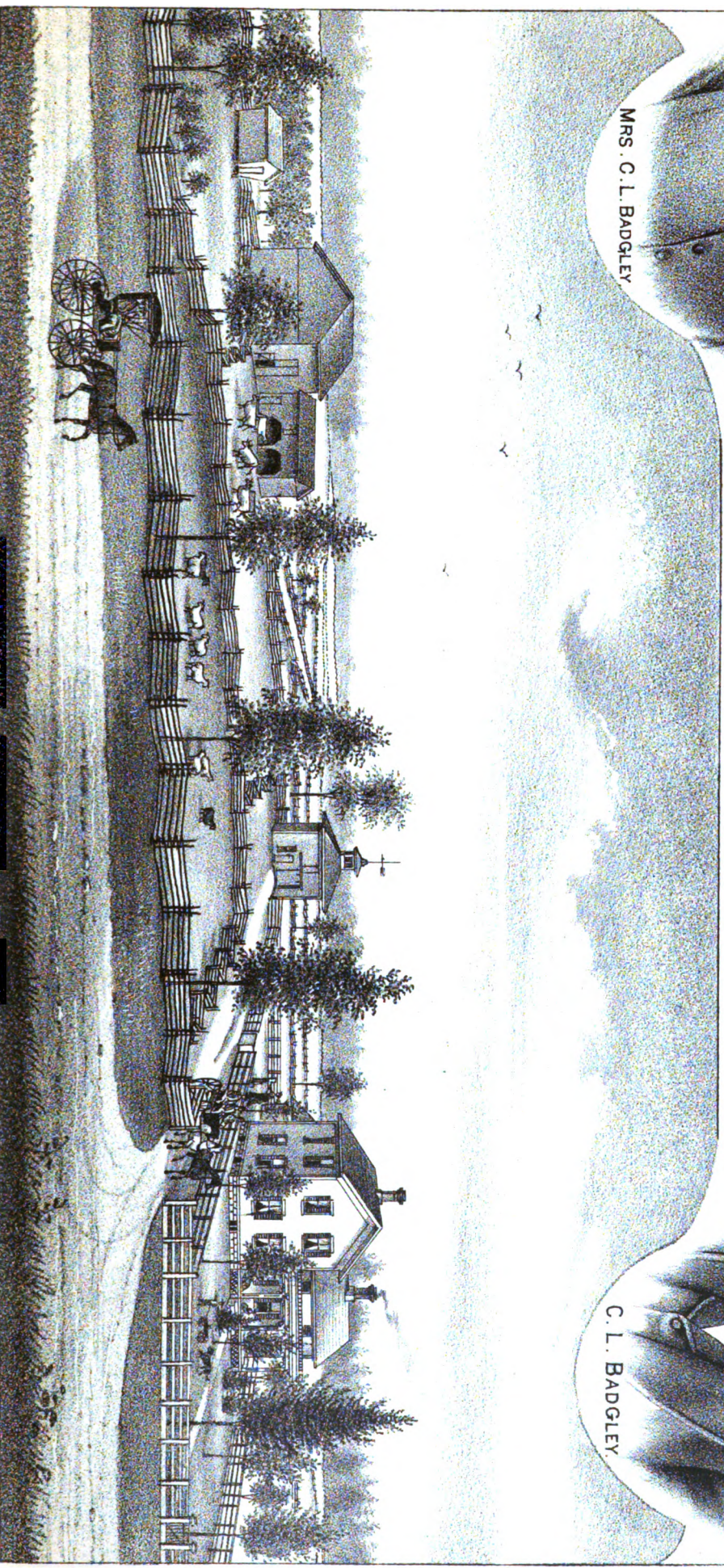




MRS. C. L. BADGLEY



C. L. BADGLEY



RESIDENCE OF C. L. BADGLEY, M. NDY. MICHIGAN.





Office." In March, 1851, it was moved to George Judson's place, in Mundy township, Mr. Judson appointed postmaster, and the name of the office changed to Mundy, which it still retains. About 1858 the office was moved to the "Baldwin Road," and Benjamin Hunt appointed to take charge of it. He held it about two years, and was succeeded by Morgan Baldwin, who held it about the same length of time. Ara Hopkins was postmaster from about 1862 for several years, and was succeeded by Nathan W. Selden, now deceased. From 1869 to 1873 it was held by William H. Borden, and in the spring of the latter year, William I. Williams, the present incumbent, assumed charge and has held it since, keeping the office at his house. Up to and including Mr. Baldwin's term of office mail was brought from Fentonville, but since then from Linden.

The following were resident tax-payers in 1844, as appears from the assessment roll for that year:

Allen, Hopkins S.  
 Alger, A. B.  
 Alger, Lewis H.  
 Alger, Samuel W.  
 Austin, Jason L.  
 Alger, Josiah H.  
 Beckwith, Lodowick.  
 Bentley, Thomas E.  
 Bentley, Josiah.  
 Brainard, Dudley.  
 Bigelow, Alvah.  
 Bishop, Alvah.  
 Bigelow, Jairus, Jr.  
 Brainard, Hiram.  
 Bigelow, Albert.  
 Barrett, Mithra J.  
 Bishop, Ebenezer.  
 Borst, Henry.  
 Barnum, Braymond.  
 Curtis, Joseph A.  
 Chatfield, Josiah.  
 Chatfield, Cyrus.  
 Clark, William D.  
 Dibble, Samuel.  
 Davis, Samuel B.  
 Dunning, Ira.  
 Eastman, Bradbury.  
 Firman, Jonathan G.  
 Fairchild, Philo.  
 Fellows, Jonathan.  
 Gillett, Daniel.  
 Gillett, Gardner.  
 Glqver, Thomas.  
 Gregory, Lewis.  
 Gibson, David.  
 Gilbert, Eli.  
 Howland, Henry H.  
 Hill, Henry.  
 Hodge, Bildad.  
 Hill, Darius G.  
 Huxley, Hiram.  
 Hempstead, Peter.  
 Houghton, James.  
 Hathaway, Daniel D.  
 Hopkins, Ara.  
 Handy, Eber.  
 Johnson, Timothy J.  
 Johnson, Abner C.  
 Judd, Henry.  
 Jameson, John B.  
 Judson, George.  
 Kirklinger, Andrew.  
 Kirklinger, Jacob.

Linsley, Orange.  
 Lawrence, Joseph.  
 Lewis, John.  
 Lovejoy, Palmer.  
 Leach, De Witt C.  
 Lovejoy, David B.  
 Lamoreux, Joseph.  
 Morton, Washington D.  
 Meaker, Nelson.  
 Martin, Mrs.  
 Mead, Burton.  
 Marble, David C.  
 Nelson, Nathaniel.  
 Newton, John.  
 Odell, William.  
 Odell, Moses.  
 Odell, Daniel.  
 Parrish, John.  
 Parks, Harvey.  
 Phillips, Joseph.  
 Phillips, James.  
 Pearsall, Joseph.  
 Pierce, William B.  
 Pierce, Asa T.  
 Pease, Granger.  
 Perry, Joseph.  
 Rusoo, Hiram.  
 Rix, James.  
 Rusoo, Horace.  
 Richards, John.  
 Stearns, Edmund.  
 Storrs, Harvey.  
 Smith, William.  
 Soovel, Ruel W.  
 Soovel, Nathan.  
 Smith, Homer B.  
 Sage, William.  
 Selden, Nathan W.  
 Stuart, William.  
 Thompson, Lyman.  
 Tupper, Charles.  
 Thompson, Maxwell.  
 Volentine, Cornelius.  
 Wilcox, Henry.  
 Wilcox, Charles.  
 Whitmore, Horace.  
 Wilkerson, Sprague.  
 White, George.  
 White, Orson.  
 White, Alpheus.  
 Whitmore, Noah L.  
 Winget, Reuben.

NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF TOWNSHIP—  
 CIVIL LIST, ETC.

When the petition for a new township was sent in to the Legislature, the name *Independence* was proposed for it, but owing to the fact that a township in Oakland County bore the same name, that of Mundy was substituted by the Legislature, in honor of Edward S. Mundy, then lieutenant-governor of the State. The act forming the township was approved March 11, 1837, and reads as follows:

"Sec. 9. All that portion of the county of Genesee designated in the United States survey as township 6 north, of ranges 5 and 6 east, be, and the same is hereby, set off and organized into a separate township by the name of Mundy; and the first township-meeting therein shall be held at the house of Josiah Alger, in said township."

On the 16th of February, 1842, the west half of the township, as formed above, was set off and organized into a separate township, called Gaines, leaving Mundy with its present dimensions, or including township 6 north in range 6 east.

"The election in the town of Mundy, in the county of Genesee and State of Michigan, met at the house of Josiah Alger, in said town, on Monday, the 3d day of April, 1837. First chose Josiah Alger, Moderator, and Morgan Baldwin, Clerk. Then, moderator and clerk being duly sworn, the meeting proceeded to business according to law, and made choice of Seth Kitchen, George Judson, Benjamin Simmons, Inspectors."

This extract is from the account of the first town-meeting, as it appears in the township records. It was "Voted, That all overseers of highways shall be fence-viewers; all horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs shall be free commoners."

The following were the officers chosen, viz.: Supervisor, Joseph Alger; Town Clerk, Morgan Baldwin; Assessors, Jonathan G. Firman, Morgan Baldwin, Benjamin Simmons, Seth Kitchen; Collector, George Judson; Commissioners of Highways, J. G. Firman, George Judson, Jeshurun Leach; School Inspectors, Jonathan G. Firman, Ira Dunning, Dudley Brainard; Justices of the Peace, Benjamin Simmons, one year; Josiah Alger, two years; Morgan Baldwin, three years; Henry M. Thompson, four years; Constables, George Judson, Volney Stiles.

At the above election but eighteen votes were cast, and of these only three were from the west half of the township. At the annual election in 1838 it was "Voted, That \$100 be raised by a tax for the purpose of assisting to make bridges *acrost* the Swartz Creek in said town," but at a special meeting held on the 25th of September in the same year, the appropriation was voted down. At an election held Nov. 4 and 5, 1839, to vote upon the amendments to the State constitution, as proposed by the Legislature of 1838, they were rejected by a vote of 40 to 9. At the general election in November, 1840, 89 votes were cast, the following being the names of the voters:

- |                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. William Gasley.  | 8. Marvin Williams.  |
| 2. William Smith.   | 9. Seth Hathaway.    |
| 3. Morgan Baldwin.  | 10. Gideon Hathaway. |
| 4. Palmer Lovejoy.  | 11. Nelson Meaker.   |
| 5. William J. King. | 12. W. D. Morton.    |
| 6. J. W. Morton.    | 13. E. D. Crane.     |
| 7. William Pierce.  | 14. Josiah Alger.    |

- 15. W. B. Young.
- 16. David Gregory.
- 17. J. H. Williams.
- 18. David Cosler.
- 19. Joshua Dart.
- 20. George Judson.
- 21. Frederick Wilcox.
- 22. William Knapp.
- 23. Henry H. Howland.
- 24. Bildad Hodge.
- 25. Aaron Decker.
- 26. Philander McLain.
- 27. Elisha Martin.
- 28. Martin Dart.
- 29. Marvin Davis.
- 30. Sprague Wilkerson.
- 31. G. M. Dart.
- 32. David Gibson.
- 33. Jesse B. Martin.
- 34. Harvey Parks.
- 35. Noah Whitmore.
- 36. Hiram Huxley.
- 37. Lodowick Beckwith.
- 38. Almeron Atherton (?).
- 39. William Lovejoy.
- 40. Ruel W. Scovel.
- 41. H. A. Brainard.
- 42. Eber Handy.
- 43. Jason L. Austin.
- 44. Lewis Gregory.
- 45. Dudley Brainard.
- 46. Ira Dunning.
- 47. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 48. A. Bishop.
- 49. Horace Whitmore.
- 50. Myron Whitmore.
- 51. Orange Lindsey.
- 52. Henry Hill.

- 53. William Stewart.
- 54. L. H. Alger.
- 55. Jacob Bentley.
- 56. Josiah Chatfield.
- 57. N. W. Selden.
- 58. B. B. Bradley.
- 59. Charles Wilcox.
- 60. Bradbury Eastman.
- 61. Gardner Gillett.
- 62. Daniel Brewor.
- 63. T. J. Johnson.
- 64. A. B. Alger.
- 65. Nathaniel Nelson.
- 66. William Sage.
- 67. W. M. Hodge.
- 68. John Newton.
- 69. Henry Borst.
- 70. Hiram Rusco.
- 71. Jonathan G. Firman.
- 72. Horace Rusco.
- 73. William Odell.
- 74. Moses Odell.
- 75. Elisha Rusco.
- 76. James Houghton.
- 77. Jonas M. Martin.
- 78. Joseph W. Bissell.
- 79. Darius G. Hill.
- 80. Burton Mead.
- 81. A. R. Pease.
- 82. Ephraim Fletcher.
- 83. Thomas Glover.
- 84. Cornelius Volentine.
- 85. John Wood.
- 86. Reuben Winget.
- 87. Asa Pierce.
- 88. Josiah Bentley.
- 89. Thomas E. Bentley.

- 1867-69. Cyrus G. Chatfield.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. John A. Kline.
- 1872-73. No record.

- 1874-75. William I. Williams.
- 1876-77. William R. Alger.
- 1878. Cyrus G. Chatfield.
- 1879. William R. Alger.

TOWN CLERKS.

- 1838. Morgan Baldwin.
- 1839. William Smith.
- 1840-41. Josiah Alger.
- 1842. Asahel H. Beach.
- 1843. Morgan L. Leach.
- 1844. Albert Bigelow.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. William Griswold.
- 1847. Josiah Alger.
- 1848. John Richards.
- 1849. Benjamin Phelps.\*
- 1850. Cyrus Chatfield.
- 1851. Benjamin Phillips.\*
- 1852-53. Cyrus Chatfield.
- 1854. David Richards.
- 1855. Benjamin Phillips.

- 1856. Edward W. Savage.
- 1857. William I. Williams.
- 1858. Albert Hathaway.
- 1859-60. William I. Williams.
- 1861-63. Samuel C. Baldwin.
- 1864. Charles M. Odell.
- 1865. Andrew Slaght.
- 1866-68. John Richards.
- 1869. Samuel A. Williams.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. William I. Williams.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. Volney Stiles.
- 1875-78. Henry G. Mason.
- 1879. John Richards.

ASSESSORS.

- 1838. Jonathan G. Firman.
- Josiah Chatfield.
- Cornelius Volentine.
- David Gibson.
- Volney Stiles.
- 1839. Thomas Glover.
- William Gasley.
- W. D. Morton.
- 1840. Thomas Glover.
- W. D. Morton.
- Martin Dart.
- 1841. Samuel Dibble.
- E. D. Crane.
- Asa T. Pierce.
- 1842. Josiah Alger.
- Nelson Meaker.
- 1843. Gardiner Gillet.

- 1843. Josiah H. Alger.
- 1844. John B. Jameson.
- Lyman Thompson.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. John Parrish.
- Asa T. Pierce.
- 1847. No record of assessors.
- 1848. Cyrus Chatfield.
- John Parrish.
- 1849. Caleb Winget.
- John Richards.
- 1850. J. H. Alger.
- J. Chatfield.
- 1851. M. J. Barrett.
- E. Stearnes.
- 1852. Same as previous year.

COLLECTORS.

- 1838-39. George Judson.

- 1840-41. Cornelius Volentine.

DIRECTORS OF THE POOR.

- 1838-40. George Judson.
- Josiah Alger.
- 1841. William Smith.
- Palmer Lovejoy.
- 1842. C. Volentine.
- R. W. Scovel.
- 1843. Palmer Lovejoy.
- Jairus Bigelow.
- 1844. P. Lovejoy.
- H. S. Allen.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. Bradbury Eastman.
- P. Lovejoy.
- 1847. Thomas Glover.
- Ruel W. Scovel.
- 1848. William Smith.
- Hopkins S. Allen.
- 1849. William Sage.
- John C. Mathewson.
- 1850. Josiah Bentley.

- 1850. Thomas Glover.
- 1851. D. G. Hill.
- H. H. Howland.
- 1852. Reuben Winget.
- J. Chatfield.
- 1853. Peter Hempstead.
- J. Chatfield.
- 1854. R. W. Scovel.
- M. J. Barrett.
- 1855. John Reid.
- William Griswold.
- 1856. R. W. Scovel.
- James Hempstead.
- 1857. M. Baldwin.
- J. Slaght.
- 1858. P. Hempstead.
- M. Baldwin.
- 1859. Robert Jadwin.
- R. W. Scovel.

The following are some of the stock marks which were adopted by the settlers in the township in 1837 :

Morgan Baldwin's mark, square crop on left ear.

J. G. Firman's, "hapiny" under side each ear.

Ira Dunning's, one hole and crop in right ear.

Abigail Simmons', slit in right ear, "hapiny" under left.

Josiah Alger's, crop off left ear and "hapiny" under right.

Seth Kitchen's, square crop off left ear, hole in right.

George Judson's, "hapiny" under right ear.

Dudley Brainard's, square crop in right ear, slit in left.

Volney Stiles', two slits in end of left ear.

William Odell's, swallow fork in right ear.

Reuben Winget's, slit in left ear.

David Gibson's, hole in left ear.

The following is a list of officers of the township, from 1838 to 1879, inclusive, as compiled from the township records :

SUPERVISORS.

- 1838-39. Josiah Alger.
- 1840. George Judson.
- 1841. David Gibson.
- 1842. Darius G. Hill.
- 1843. Nathan W. Selden.
- 1844. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1847. Homer B. Smith.
- 1848. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1849-51. George Judson.

- 1852. Josiah H. Alger.
- 1853-56. Abner C. Johnson.
- 1857. Silas Jameson.
- 1858. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1859. H. B. Smith.
- 1860. Julian Bishop.
- 1861. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1862-63. Cyrus G. Chatfield.
- 1864. Abner C. Johnson.
- 1865. Cyrus G. Chatfield.
- 1866. William I. Williams.

COMMISSIONERS OF HIGHWAYS.

- 1838. Jesse B. Martin.
- George Judson.
- W. D. Morton.
- 1839. George Judson.
- William Odell.
- Ephraim Fletcher.

- 1840. George Judson.
- Sprague Wilkerson.
- Ephraim Fletcher.
- 1841. Thomas Glover.
- Walter Beers.
- Noah Whitmore.

\* Probably same name.

- 1842. E. Handy.  
M. J. Barrett.  
Wm. Smith.
- 1843. Timothy J. Johnson.  
David Gibson.  
H. Whittemore.
- 1844. Hiram Rusco.  
David Gibson.  
Homer B. Smith.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. David Gibson.  
Jason F. Allen.  
Henry H. Howland.
- 1847. Josiah H. Alger.  
Jacob Bentley.  
David Gibson.
- 1848. Reuben Winget.  
A. Howland.
- 1849. John Slaght.
- 1850. Josiah Bentley.
- 1851. Henry H. Howland.
- 1852. William Odell.
- 1853. Caleb B. Winget.
- 1854. J. B. Jameson.  
Samuel Dibble.
- 1855. Francis Wilson.
- 1856. H. Kennedy.

- 1856. Jacob Bentley.  
William I. Williams.
- 1857. Timothy Johnson.
- 1858. John C. Mathewson.
- 1859. Isaac P. Dumond.
- 1860. David Handy.
- 1861. J. C. Mathewson.
- 1862. Asa Bigelow.
- 1863. W. M. Armstrong.  
Henry Hill.
- 1864. Geo. W. Peer.
- 1865. Joshua C. Covert.
- 1866. Cyrus Hewitt.  
Wm. M. Armstrong.
- 1867. Henry H. Howland.
- 1868. Walter Cross.
- 1869. William M. Armstrong.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. Walter Cross.  
Joseph M. Peck.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. William R. Alger.
- 1875-76. John L. Jennings.
- 1877. B. Glover.
- 1878. Benjamin F. Pease.
- 1879. George W. Peer.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

- 1838. Henry H. Howland.
- 1839. Josiah Alger.
- 1840. Washington D. Morton.
- 1841. Nathan Selden.
- 1842. Josiah Chatfield.
- 1843. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1844. W. D. Morton.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. Josiah Bentley.
- 1847. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1848. Jabez Close.
- 1849. Nathan W. Selden.
- 1850. Norwin C. Johnson.
- 1851. John Thompson.
- 1852. Josiah Bentley.  
D. C. Leach.
- 1853. N. W. Selden.  
James E. Spicer.
- 1854. N. C. Johnson.  
J. Bentley.  
Silas Jameson.
- 1855. Asa T. Pierce.
- 1856. Josiah Bentley.
- 1857. John B. Jameson.
- 1858. John H. Slaght.

- 1859. William I. Williams.
- 1860. Josiah Bentley.  
David Winget.
- 1861. N. W. Selden.  
Josiah Bentley.
- 1862. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1863. Volney Stiles.
- 1864. David Richards.
- 1865. Nathan W. Selden.
- 1866. Josiah Bentley.
- 1867. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1868. David Richards.  
Henry Hill.
- 1869. Nathan W. Selden.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. Ebenezer Bishop.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. John H. Slaght.
- 1875. John Richards.
- 1876. Charles D. Hoyt, Jr.
- 1877. Reuben W. Sage.
- 1878. John H. Slaght.
- 1879. S. A. Williams.  
Hiram B. Gilbert.

TREASURERS.

- 1839. Cornelius Volentine.
- 1840-41. William Odell.
- 1842. No record.
- 1843-44. John Richards.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. John Richards.
- 1847-49. Charles Wilcox.
- 1850-51. Thomas Glover.
- 1852. John C. Mathewson.
- 1853. Reuben Winget.
- 1854-56. George White.
- 1857. Cyrus Chatfield.
- 1858. William M. Avery.
- 1859. Andrew Slaght.
- 1860. John H. Slaght.
- 1861. Hiram B. Gilbert.

- 1862. John C. Mathewson.
- 1863. Elisha A. Moses.
- 1864. Edward H. Savage.
- 1865. Francis Hopkins.
- 1866. Josiah Bentley.
- 1867-68. Edward H. Savage.
- 1869. John Richards.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. George White.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. Francis P. Alger.
- 1875. George S. Witherell.
- 1876-77. Francis P. Alger.
- 1878. John L. Jennings.
- 1879. Francis P. Alger.

SCHOOL INSPECTORS.

- 1838. Dudley Brainard.  
W. D. Morton.  
Josiah Alger.
- 1839. Nelson Meaker.  
W. D. Morton.  
Josiah Alger.
- 1840. W. D. Morton.  
G. Judson.  
M. Dart.
- 1841. Nelson Meaker.  
W. D. Morton.  
Dudley Brainard.
- 1842. W. D. Morton.  
A. H. Beach.  
N. Meaker.
- 1843. Ira Dunning.  
Dudley Brainard.
- 1844. Dudley Brainard.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. Albert Bigelow.  
Maxwell Thompson.
- 1847. Jabez Close.
- 1848. Jabez Close.  
N. C. Johnson.
- 1849. DeWitt C. Leach.  
Jabez Close.
- 1850. Jabez Close.
- 1851. D. C. Leach.

- 1852. W. I. Williams.  
S. Mathewson.
- 1853. Marshall Armstrong.
- 1854. Francis Hopkins.
- 1855. W. M. Armstrong.
- 1856. Andrew Slaght.
- 1857. William M. Armstrong.
- 1858. Stephen Mathewson.
- 1859. James Jameson.
- 1860. Albert Hathaway.
- 1861. William M. Armstrong.
- 1862. David Richards.
- 1863. Andrew Slaght.
- 1864. David Richards.
- 1865. James Brewer.
- 1866. David Richards.
- 1867. James T. Brewer.
- 1868. M. D. Stuart.  
John C. Howland.
- 1869. John L. Jennings.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. Henry Mason.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. George Hill.
- 1875. Joseph M. Peck.
- 1876-78. Nathan E. Selden.
- 1879. Theodore George.

TOWNSHIP SUPERINTENDENTS OF SCHOOLS.

- 1875. Abram Peer.
- 1876. Theodore George.

- 1877-79. De Witt J. Lawrence.

TOWNSHIP DRAIN COMMISSIONERS.

- 1874. Nehemiah Countryman.
- 1875. Dudley S. Reid.

- 1876. E. H. Sherwood (2 yrs.).  
No record since.

CONSTABLES.

- 1838. George Judson.  
Almeron S. Simmons.
- 1839. George Judson.  
Isaac W. Morton.  
Albert B. Alger.
- 1840. Cornelius Volentine.  
Isaac W. Morton.  
William Young.
- 1841. Cornelius Volentine.  
Isaac W. Morton.  
Palmer Lovejoy.
- 1842. William Odell.  
Josiah Bentley.  
Isaac W. Morton.  
John Wood.
- 1843. John Richards.  
Jairus Bigelow, Jr.  
Palmer Lovejoy.  
Charles Wilcox.
- 1844. Andrew Kitchen.  
Henry Judd.  
Cyrus Chatfield.  
Charles Wilcox.
- 1845. No record.
- 1846. Levi Hodge.  
Charles Wilcox.  
Henry Judd.  
Alpheus White.
- 1847. Charles Wilcox.  
Palmer Lovejoy.  
Ara Hopkins.  
Jacob Bentley.

- 1848. Henry S. Richards.  
A. S. Hopkins.  
Cyrenus Parrish.  
James Northway.
- 1849. Hopkins S. Allen.  
Edmund Rix.
- 1850. Alvah Bigelow.  
Charles Wilcox.  
E. Rix.  
Orson White.
- 1851. O. White.  
J. T. Williams.  
L. B. Jewett.  
Barnabas Greenfield.
- 1852. George Brown.  
J. T. Williams.  
D. L. Lighthall.
- 1853. John Howe.  
J. Bigelow, Jr.  
D. L. Lighthall.  
J. O. Northway.
- 1854. Nelson Stormes.  
J. T. Williams.  
Wm. Van Tiffin.
- 1855. J. C. Pratt.  
A. Hallock.  
J. Bigelow, Jr.  
J. T. Williams.
- 1856. John Howe.  
Everett Booth.  
Samuel A. Williams.  
John Slaght.



- 1857. William Avery.  
Nelson Stormes.  
A. Hallock.  
Charles Wilcox.
- 1858. William M. Avery.  
John Wells.  
Samuel Brown.  
Almon Hallock.  
Henry Childs.
- 1859. J. T. Williams.  
James Lovejoy.  
Thomas Davis.
- 1860. Ira Remington.  
Reuben Sage.  
Daniel Gillett.  
J. T. Williams.
- 1861. Walter Cross.  
Riley Tupper.  
Reuben Sage.  
Asa Wilson.
- 1862. W. Cross.  
R. Tupper.  
Salmon Lacy.  
Samuel Brown.
- 1863. R. R. Tupper.  
W. Cross.  
Charles Bell.  
Samuel Brown.
- 1864. John L. Jennings.  
Peter Phillips.  
Stewart Curle.  
Manville Bloss.
- 1865. Jesse Buck.  
Cyrenus Hodge.  
Peter Phillips.  
Samuel Brown.
- 1866. W. Cross.  
R. Tupper.  
Alfred Lovejoy.  
John D. Light.
- 1867. Caleb Gillett.
- 1867. W. Cross.  
R. Tupper.  
John D. Light.
- 1868. C. Gillett.  
John D. Light.  
Riley R. Tupper.  
Reuben W. Sage.
- 1869. R. R. Tupper.  
Chester Collins.  
George Borden.  
Samuel Brown.
- 1870. No record.
- 1871. Stewart Curle.  
John A. King.  
George Borden.  
Almon Hallock.
- 1872-73. No record.
- 1874. James Hempstead.  
Riley Tupper.  
George Borden.  
Peter Phillips.
- 1875. Eugene George.  
Edward H. Sherwood.  
John H. Soper.  
James Hempstead.
- 1876. James Hempstead.  
John H. Soper.  
Lookwood Barnum.  
Peter Phillips.
- 1877. P. Phillips.  
John Hill.  
Charles Eckley.  
John H. Soper.
- 1878. Peter Phillips.  
John Hill, Jr.  
Dan Brown.
- 1879. Peter Phillips.  
William Cross.  
Wm. E. Van Tiffin.  
Charles Eckley.

SCHOOLS.

The first school district organized in the township was what is still known as District No. 1, in the Baldwin neighborhood. It was organized in the spring of 1837,\* and a school taught the summer following, by Miss Mary Gazley, in a log school-house which stood on the corner of the farm now owned by LaFayette Odell. This building was subsequently burned. Before this school was taught—or in the summer of 1836—the few settlers living in the neighborhood, wishing for a school to send their children to, hired Mrs. Conant, the widowed sister-in-law of Jeshurun Leach, to teach one for them, paying her ten shillings a week for her services. The school was held in her own house,—a small log shanty,—and she proved an excellent teacher. This was the first school taught in the township. Mrs. Conant was the mother of Avery G. and Wesley Conant, now of Fenton.

The first winter term was taught by a Scotchman named McClergan† (or McClagan). DeWitt C. Leach taught a number of terms afterwards, as is elsewhere mentioned.

In Fractional District No. 9, also on the Baldwin road, a lot was cleared and a log school-house built about 1845. This building was never finished or used. In 1847 a frame school-house was put up on the opposite corner, and is the one still in use. The first teacher in this district was Mary Ann Odell, who taught in the summer of 1847.

In what is now District No. 6 a log school-house was built about 1841-42, on the northeast corner of section 29, and Mary S. Williams, sister of William I. Williams, was probably the first teacher.

The following was the condition of the schools in Mundy township on the 2d of September, 1878, according to the annual report of the school inspectors:

DISTRICTS.	Number of Children from Five to Twenty Years of Age.	Attendance during Year.	Non-Resident Pupils.	Number of Days School during Year by Qualified Teachers.	No. School-Houses.		Value of Property.	NUMBER OF TEACHERS.		TEACHERS' WAGES.	
					Frame.	Number of Sitings.		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
No. 1.....	37	40	4	180	1	60	\$600	1	2	\$160	\$44
" 2.....	45	35	...	150	1	50	300	1	1	105	56
" 3.....	68	54	...	160	1	80	800	1	1	120	64
" 6.....	53	48	...	208	1	...	300	1	1	100	48
" 10.....	37	27	...	160	1	60	600	1	1	112	40
" 11.....	89	65	2	178	1	65	500	...	2	.....	151.40
" 4.....	44	30	...	160	1	...	1000	...	1	.....	102
" 9.....	62	60	3	150	1	40	250	1	2	115	56.25
" 10.....	34	31	4	140	1	40	400	...	2	.....	136

Receipts for year, \$2001.88; amount on hand, Sept. 2, 1878, \$341.51; total expenditures, less amount on hand, \$1660.37.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MUNDY CENTRE.

On the 28th of July, 1844, a church was formed, and given the name of the "First Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant." March 7, 1856, the name was changed to the "First Presbyterian Church of the Town of Mundy." An organization had previously existed, which was known as the "First Church of Christ in Mundy," but this was finally discontinued, and the Presbyterian church formed in

its place. The latter was organized by Rev. Peter H. Burghardt, of Fenton, and consisted of the following members, viz.: Nathan W. Selden, John Cook, Palmer Lovejoy, Theophilus Stone,—these four from the "First Church of Christ in Mundy,"—and Joseph Child, from the Houston Street Presbyterian Church, in New York City. Nathan W. Selden was chosen ruling elder, and held the position until his death, in May, 1869. Joseph Child was first clerk. Aug. 10, 1844, four additional members were re-

\* 1836 according to some authority.

† Information by Hon. D. C. Leach, of Springfield, Mo.

‡ Fractional districts.

ceived, viz.: William B. Ferris, Mrs. Emeline Roys, Mrs. Sophia McOmber, and Mrs. Isabella Cook.

The first services were held by Rev. P. H. Burghardt. Revs. George P. King and Ira Dunning preached in 1845, and in June or July, 1846, Rev. J. Copeland came, remaining about three months. Rev. J. B. Jewell became stated supply in September, 1851, and preached for a number of years. He finally removed to California, in which State he yet resides. While ministering to this church he lived in the township of Gaines. Rev. Alanson Herrick and family united with the church in February, 1864, and Mr. Herrick began preaching soon after. He was succeeded by Rev. Armon Spencer, whose name first appears on the records in August, 1873. Rev. William Woodmansee, from the Congregational church at Grand Blanc, was the next pastor, coming in 1874. Rev. L. P. Frost took charge in May, 1876, and, after a stay of two years was succeeded in May, 1877, by the present pastor, Rev. A. T. Waterman.

For many years this church was only a mission, and received aid from the Home Missionary Society. The present frame house of worship was built in 1869, a portion of the funds being taken from the "church-erection fund" of the Presbyterian society. The dedicatory sermon for this church was preached by Rev. Mr. McSween, of Flint. The membership in June, 1879, was 51. A Sabbath-school is sustained, with John H. Slaght as superintendent. Meetings were at first held in different school-houses.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH, NEAR MUNDY CENTRE.\*

This society was organized in 1845, and has a present membership of about 50. A tasty frame church has been erected.

#### METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NEAR MUNDY P. O.

This is known as the "South Mundy Methodist Episcopal Church," and has a membership of about 90. A class was formed in 1837, at or near the Odell school-house, and a log school-house was subsequently built near the south line of the township. The location was finally changed to Long Lake, in Fenton township, where a class still exists. The South Mundy class was organized in 1840, and is at present a part of the Linden circuit. The present frame church was built in 1872, and dedicated in December of that year free from debt. The pastor in charge of the Linden circuit is Rev. Orlando Sanborn, now serving his second term of three years.

To those who have furnished information which has been incorporated in the foregoing history of Mundy township, the thanks of the historian are hereby tendered. Among those included are Hon. DeWitt C. Leach, of Springfield, Mo., Mr. and Mrs. William Odell, Volney Stiles and his son, T. P. Stiles, Morgan Baldwin, George Judson, John Thompson, William I. Williams, Mrs. N. W. Selden, Asa T. Pierce, William R. Alger, Mrs. J. F. Allen, Henry H. Howland and wife, John Richards, Ebenezer Bishop, Mrs. Peter Hempstead, John

\* Items furnished by John Remington. It is regretted that nothing further was learned of this organization, which is the second in age in the township.

Remington, and many others not now recollected. Numerous points in the history of the township have been difficult to ascertain correctly, but this article is submitted with the belief that it is accurate and reliable so far as it is possible to make it so.

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

### MORGAN BALDWIN.

Around the name and memory of the first settler of a town, county, or State, there will always cling a peculiar interest,—an interest felt for no other class of men. Who was the first settler of this town? Why did he come in here alone? What must have been his feelings when he knew that for miles around him there was no other white



Photo. by J. H. Phipps, Fenton.

MORGAN BALDWIN.

man?—will be the queries in after-years. Such a man was Morgan Baldwin, the first white settler in the town of Mundy.

He was born July 15, 1796, in what was then called Newtown, Tioga Co., N. Y., but what is now known as Elmira, Chemung Co. His father, Col. Thomas Baldwin, was born in Norwich, Conn., Feb. 23, 1755, where he resided with his parents until the breaking out of the Revolutionary war, when he joined the American army, and served as a private in Gen. Morgan's command. He served seven years and participated in many battles and skirmishes. He was slightly wounded at Red Bank and Brandywine, and was present at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. After the war, he, with his father's family, emigrated to the Wyoming Valley, where they lived until the Wyoming massacre, when they were driven out, two of his uncles being killed by the Indians. After the massacre, Col. Baldwin joined Gen. Sullivan as a scout, and for meritorious conduct was breveted ensign. The history of Sulli-

van's campaign speaks of Eusign Baldwin being wounded at the battle of Chemung. In another place the history speaks of him as Col. Thomas Baldwin, and mentions that he was severely wounded. Col. Baldwin afterwards purchased as his farm the ground where he fell wounded, and the orchard he set out still stands near the battlefield. On this farm he lived until his death, which occurred Jan. 14, 1810.

Morgan lived with his parents until he arrived at his majority, when he started out in life for himself. In February, 1818, he married Miss Hannah Sly. The result of this marriage was three children, viz.: Almira, Mary, and John. Mrs. Baldwin died Aug. 4, 1826. After the death of his wife, Mr. Baldwin resided with his father-in-law until the fall of 1833, when he resolved to seek a home where land was plenty and cheap. He came to Michigan, and in February, 1834, located the land he now owns, on section 27, in Mundy township. There was then no white residents in the township, nor for many miles around. The following March he built a log house on his land, and April 5th following moved his family into it. He had previously (Feb. 14, 1834) married Mary Jane Yanger. Their daughter, Hannah, born March 31, 1835, was the first white child born in the township. She married David Joslyn. Mr. Baldwin had lived in the town a year and nine months, when Thos. Glover and David Gibson moved in and settled near him. Mr. Baldwin says it seemed to him then that the town was full, and he the happiest man in the county. The first summer he cleared ten acres, and in the fall sowed five acres of wheat, which yielded twenty-seven bushels to the acre, and was threshed by Thomas Glover. Mr. Baldwin soon learned to talk with his Indian neighbors, with whom he lived on intimate and very friendly terms. They were of great assistance to him, and saved his family much suffering. The land he first bought has increased by subsequent additions to two hundred acres under good cultivation, upon which he still resides, and intends to pass the remainder of his days. He has lived to see the wilderness disappear, and in its place fine farms, with beautiful homes, churches, and schools. The six miles square of woods and swamps, which he saw when he first settled, is now one of the finest towns in the county. Then, the home of the Indians and wild animals; now, the home of an intelligent, enterprising people.

Mr. Baldwin in early life was a Whig, and is now an ardent Republican. He was one of the first justices of the peace in the town, and held the office several years. Was town clerk, and has held other minor offices. In the war of 1812 he enlisted, but saw no active service. Has been for twenty years a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Baldwin married, for his third wife, Eunice Dart, daughter of Joshua and Susannah (Stebbins) Dart. She was born Jan. 16, 1816; married Dec. 13, 1838. Children,—Mathew S., born Sept. 17, 1839; Ency, born April 12, 1842; Thomas, born Dec. 27, 1844, died Oct. 26, 1847; Morgan G., born Aug. 26, 1847; Susan, born June 7, 1851; and Vine, born Oct. 12, 1854, died Dec. 5, 1857.

#### PETER HEMPSTED

was born in Rice township, Monroe Co., N. Y. His father, John Hempsted, was born in Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1776, where he grew to manhood; he was a weaver by trade, and worked at it when he was not farming. Soon after his marriage to Miss Amy Barker he moved to Monroe Co., N. Y., where he bought a small farm. Here Peter lived until he was twenty-three years old, working on the farm, or at whatever he could get to do. In 1836 he was attacked by the Western fever, and determined to go West and make himself a home where land was cheap. He came to Grand Blanc, in Genesee County. The first year he worked for Roland Perry; in 1837 he bought of his father the west half of the southwest quarter of section 14, in Mundy township, a lot which his father had purchased of the government. On this farm, now one of the best in the county, Mr. Hempsted still resides. In 1843 he built a small house on his farm, and made a permanent settlement. At that time there was no road to his land, and the family came and went by blazed trees. From Flint and Grand Blanc he carried his supplies to the new home in the woods with the help of an old fashioned neck-yoke. Their nearest neighbors were Indians, with whom they lived on the most friendly terms. The wolves were then a great source of annoyance, killing their sheep and making it unsafe for the family to be out in the evening.

Mr. Hempsted is one of the most successful agriculturists in the county, and his farm is a model after which the young men of to-day would do well to pattern. One secret of his success is his versatile skill in labor, making most of his farming tools, and assisting to erect his buildings. In politics Mr. Hempsted is a Republican, but not a seeker of office. He has been a member of the Baptist Church for nearly half a century, as has also his wife. He is spoken of by his neighbors as an honorable and successful business man, one whom to know is to respect.

On the 8th day of June, 1841, he married Mrs. Mindwell Beebe, daughter of Guernsey and Asenath (Brainard) Goff. She was born Jan. 9, 1814. There have been born to them eight children: Arthur, born April 6, 1842; Adelia, born Feb. 22, 1844; Eliza, born Feb. 11, 1846, died March 24, 1848; Cyrus, born April 30, 1848; Eme-line, born Dec. 17, 1849, died Aug. 6, 1850; Sylvester, born July 23, 1851; Peter J., born Oct. 12, 1853; and Frank, born Dec. 9, 1857. To Mrs. Hempsted, by her first husband, were born two children,—Zala Beebe, born Oct. 25, 1837, and Edmund Beebe, born Nov. 25, 1839. Three of their children served in the Union army during the war of the Rebellion,—Arthur Hempsted, in Co. E, 5th Michigan Battery, enlisted Dec. 9, 1862, and served until the war closed; Zala Beebe, served in the same company and battery about a year; Edmund Beebe, enlisted Dec. 9, 1862, and served during the war in the same company as his brother.

#### EBENEZER BISHOP.

Among the early settlers of Mundy, there is no one who has done more for the advancement of the township and the county at large than Ebenezer Bishop. He was born in

Montville, New London Co., Conn., April 9, 1807. In 1818 his father moved to Livingston Co., N. Y., and bought a farm, on which Ebenezer grew to manhood, working with his father, and spending a few of the winter months at the district school. At the age of twenty-one he left the paternal home, and started out in life for himself. For two years he worked out by the month, then leased his father's farm for three years. With the money thus earned he started for Michigan, arriving at Springfield, Oakland Co., in 1833. The next spring he came to Grand Blanc, Genesee Co. The following year he was sick, and instead



EBENEZER BISHOP.

of gaining ground he ran behind over one hundred dollars. In 1835, Mr. Bishop bought a farm near Flint, but soon sold it. During the next year he bought and sold farms, and helped new comers in locating land. In the fall of 1836 he returned to New York and there spent the winter, but returned to Genesee County the ensuing spring, and brought his newly-married wife with him. Previous to this he had purchased from the government eighty acres of the farm he now owns, on section 24. At that time Mundy was a new and wild country; there were no roads, and but few white people. Mr. Bishop procured his supplies from Grand Blanc, going by an Indian trail and bringing the goods home on his back. On this lot of wild land he built a log house, and at once commenced to improve and clear the land. Their neighbors were Indians, of whose kindness Mrs. Bishop speaks in the highest terms. Some of the Indians' descendants still visit them, and are always kindly received. When the plank road was built from Flint to Fentonville, Mr. Bishop took an active part in its construction, and at one time owned a controlling interest in the same. He was throughout one of its directors, most of the time its treasurer, and for a while its president. The road did not prove a financial success, and Mr. Bishop lost many thousand dollars in this enterprise. Still, what

was his loss was the community's gain, as they still have the benefit of five miles of gravel road built by Mr. Bishop. At an early day Mr. Bishop was a Whig, and later a Republican, of which latter party he is a firm adherent. He has been supervisor of his township several times, and one of its justices for more than thirty years. Mr. Bishop is now, at the age of seventy-two, a hale and hearty man,—one of whom his neighbors and fellow-citizens speak in the highest terms. To the farm of eighty acres first bought of the government, he has added until he now owns a fine farm of over three hundred acres under good improvement. April 10, 1837, he married Miss Mary P. Morgan, who was born in Lima, Livingston Co., N. Y., July 17, 1817. She was a daughter of John and Mary (Pierce) Morgan. Their union has been blessed with three children, viz.: Thomas S., born Oct. 24, 1838; Eliza W., born Jan. 16, 1844; and Mary Frances, born May 10, 1858.

#### JOHN L. JENNINGS

was born in Ennis township, Shiawassee Co., Mich., April 1, 1842. His father, Abram M. Jennings, was born in New Jersey, Aug. 26, 1802; he married Miss Emily Layton, and afterwards lived for a time in Lyons, Wayne Co., N. Y. In 1837 he emigrated to Shiawassee Co., Mich., and purchased an eighty-acre lot of the government. On this lot he built a log house and barn, and commenced to improve. At the time of his death, which occurred Jan. 13, 1848, he had improved his land and made a comfortable home. John L. continued to live at home after his father's death and until he was sixteen years of age, when he started out in life for himself. His chances for an education were very limited, yet he acquired enough book knowledge to do any ordinary business. His start in life was obtained by working on the farms of his neighbors at twelve dollars per month. In 1863 he purchased the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of section 9 in Mundy township, and ran in debt for the same and for his team. The only assistance he received was two hundred dollars from his father's estate. Since then Mr. Jennings has owned more land than he now possesses, but, believing that more money can be made on a small farm properly managed, he has reduced his farm to sixty acres, and his success proves the truth of his belief. He is accounted as one of the most successful and energetic business men of his town. In politics he is and ever has been a Republican. He has always taken an active interest in political matters, and has held the positions of town treasurer and commissioner of highways. On the 16th day of April, 1868, he was married to Miss Harriet E. Dibble, who was born Dec. 11, 1842, in Mundy. She is the daughter of Samuel and Juliza (Hill) Dibble. Their union has been blessed with four children, as follows: Julia D., born Feb. 23, 1863, married to Charles Countryman, April 30, 1879; Henry M., born Aug. 20, 1865; Emma J., born Nov. 11, 1872; and John D., born Jan. 3, 1874. A view of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jennings will be found elsewhere in this work.



JOHN SLAGHT.

## JOHN SLAGHT.

This venerable gentleman is the fourth in a family of eight children, his birth occurring in the State of New Jersey, June 2, 1790. The name, as its orthography indicates, was originally Holland Dutch, although a portion of French blood flows in the veins of those in this family. Mr. Slaght and one sister, residing in Ingham Co., Mich., are the only survivors of the family of their father, Matthias Slaght. Time dealt gently with all its members, and their years were prolonged much beyond the ordinary span of human existence. Mr. Slaght's father served a few months in the patriot army during the Revolutionary war, being at the time but sixteen years of age. When the son was twelve years old his father removed to Seneca Co., N. Y. Upon the breaking out of the war of 1812 the young man was not found lacking in a love of country, but went to the front with the rifle company to which he belonged, commanded by Capt. Swick. Mr. Slaght grew to manhood upon his father's farm of two hundred acres, receiving a common-school education and experiencing the varied phases of pioneer life in the then wild region of Central New York. On the 13th of December, 1814, he married Miss Phebe Howell, and began work for himself on his father's place, erecting thereon a small tannery and a saw-mill, both of which he operated for many years. Mrs. Slaght, who was born Aug. 6, 1792, was one of a family of seven children,—five sons and two daughters. Her grandfather and his brother emigrated to this country, before the Revolution, from Scotland, and settled in New Jersey. Her father, too young to serve as a soldier in the Revolutionary army, yet aspiring to fame, carried dispatches for the American commanders, placing them between the soles of his shoes. After the war was ended he settled also in Seneca Co., N. Y., and engaged in farming and the manufacture of bricks.

Mr. and Mrs. Slaght were the parents of eight children, as follows: Mary, born Nov. 5, 1815; Joseph, born Dec. 6, 1817; Matthias, born Jan. 12, 1821; Catherine, born May 9, 1823; Susan, born Oct. 8, 1825; Julia, born Oct. 10, 1828; John, born Dec. 6, 1830; Andrew, born Dec. 1, 1832. Mrs. Slaght died July 8, 1871.



MRS. JOHN SLAGHT.

In 1847, Mr. Slaght sold his property in Seneca County and removed with his family to Michigan, locating in Mundy township, upon the farm he still owns. He purchased two eighty-acre lots from Peter Chriss, and, aided by his sons, has cleared up the farm, upon which no timber had been felled when he came, and built his present residence. Mr. Slaght's hospitality has been almost phenomenal, he never having turned a person away from his door. Politically, he was a Democrat until the organization of the Republican party, since when he has been found in the ranks of the latter. He voted for the lamented Lincoln, thus aiding in the overthrow of slavery in the Republic. For many years not a drop of liquor has been tasted by him, and for more than sixty years he has been a member of the Dutch Reformed and Presbyterian Churches, first of the former in New York, and, since coming to Mundy, of the Presbyterian Church at the centre. At the age of eighty-nine he possesses much vigor, yet the weight of years is reminding him at length of a home with those who have "gone before."

## WILLIAM I. WILLIAMS.

Among the self-made men of Genesee County there are none who better deserve the title, or who by their acts have made their influence more felt, than William I. Williams, of whom this brief sketch is written. Mr. Williams was born in Darlington, Canada, May 31, 1828. His father, Adna Williams, was born in Connecticut, but moved to Canada, where he married Miss Ellen Cutcher, who was born Oct. 23, 1809. Soon after William's birth his father moved back to the States, and settled in Livingston Co., N. Y., where he worked at his trade, that of a machinist. After the death of his father his mother again married, and the family at once came to Michigan, settling in Saginaw, then a place of about two hundred inhabitants. This was in 1836. In 1840 they moved to Grand Blanc, where his step-father worked a rented farm. He afterwards purchased the farm now owned by John L. Jeunings, but, his death occurring a few weeks later, the farm was given up. William I. was then but fourteen years old, and the eldest

of the children; he thus early became the head of the family. With the help of an uncle a log house was built, and the first three acres cleared and got into wheat, but the farm had to be given up as above stated. He then bought five years of a ten-year lease of fourteen acres of land on the farm of Mr. Baldwin, and paid the rent for the same by clearing land. He lived on this land five years, and endured many privations, there being days in their lives when, with nothing in the house to eat, hunger and grim want stared them in the face. Yet William showed himself equal to the occasion, and the family were reared and educated, he himself having had but limited opportunities in that direction, being wholly embraced by a few months' attendance at a winter school and studying nights by the light of a fireplace. So well did he avail himself of his advantages that when seventeen years of age we find him teaching school, which he followed successfully for several terms.

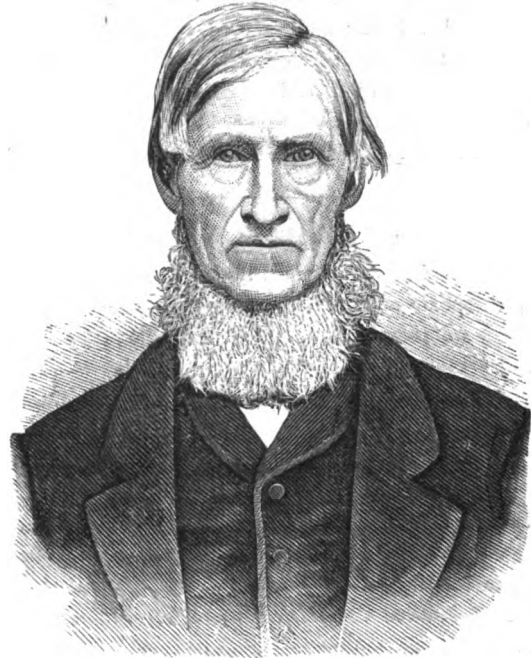
In 1850, Mr. Williams bought the south half of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 28, which was then all new, he cutting thereon the first tree. On this tract he built a log house, and moved his mother's family into it. Six years after, he bought the remainder of the eighty acres which he now owns, and which are under a good state of improvement, with a fine new house, good barns, orchard, etc., and where the aged mother still finds a home.

Mr. Williams owes his success in life to the fact that he has always been able to turn his hand to almost any kind of work. He has worked at the cooper's trade, has helped build his own buildings, in his younger day was a successful sheep-shearer, and has never refused to work on account of low wages. He is now working his farm and is also engaged in the mercantile business, keeping a small stock of general merchandise in connection with the post-office at Mundy, of which he is and has been for several years postmaster. He has for several years passed his leisure hours in writing poetry and articles on temperance and pioneer life, many of which he has contributed to the county press. In politics he is a Democrat. He has been for five years supervisor of his town, filling the office to the satisfaction of his constituents; has also served as town clerk for several years, and many times as highway commissioner and school inspector. In 1870 he was the Democratic nominee for State senator, and in 1872 for sheriff, but, his party being largely in the minority, he was not elected.

On the 1st day of January, 1859, Mr. Williams married Miss Julia Merrill, daughter of Horace Merrill. This union was blessed with one child, Ida J., born Sept. 19, 1859. Miss Williams is now teaching in Oregon. Mrs. Williams died April 3, 1862. For his second wife Mr. Williams married Miss Selina L. Peck, daughter of William A. and Eliza (Lindsley) Peck, born May 15, 1839, married March 29, 1869. There have been born to them four children,—Charles B., born Dec. 8, 1868; William E., born March 8, 1870; Julius I., born April 15, 1873; and Clarence M., born Dec. 25, 1875.

### VOLNEY STILES

was born in Aurelius, Cayuga Co., N. Y., April 16, 1811. His father moved to Livingston Co., N. Y., when Mr. Stiles was a small lad, and engaged in farming. Volney, like the farmers' boys of that day, worked on his father's farm as soon as he was old enough, and went to school a few weeks during the winter months. Arrived at his majority, he started out in life for himself, with only his industrious habits and health and strength as his capital. His first money was made from raising wheat on shares. But



VOLNEY STILES.

this was too slow a method, and he determined to go to a new country where land was cheap, and there obtain a farm of his own. The fall of 1833 found him in Mundy township, Genesee Co., Mich., then an almost unbroken wilderness. Two or three settlers only had preceded him. Mr. Stiles, who was then a single man, bought of the government the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section 11, and erected a shanty thereon. He passed the winter of 1833-34 on his lot, and made a clearing. In the fall of 1834 he sowed a few acres of wheat. Two years later he sold this land and bought the west half of the northwest quarter of section 13, in Mundy, a few acres only of which was improved. On this he built a log house, and cleared and improved thirty acres. The wolves were then numerous, and their howling at first kept Mr. Stiles awake, but he soon became accustomed to it, and slept as soundly as though in the midst of civilization. The subsequent death of his wife was a sad bereavement, and caused him to sell his place and, for a time, work for others. In 1840 he again married, and then bought another (new) farm, in Grand Blanc, which he cleared up and improved. Since then Mr. Stiles has owned several farms, and has done his share towards improving and making Genesee County what it is to-day. And now, at a ripe old age, respected and esteemed by his fellow-townsmen, he resides in the town-



ship which he has seen develop from a wilderness into one of the finest in the county. In politics Mr. Stiles is a Democrat. He has held the offices of town clerk and justice of the peace, filling the latter position for eight years. He is liberal in his religious views, and is not a member of any church.

In 1834, Mr. Stiles married Miss Mary Page, who was born in Lowell, Mass. Their union was blessed with one child, Caroline E., born Dec. 25, 1835.

He married, Jan. 28, 1840, Rhoda Dayton, who was born, Dec. 2, 1805, in Bennington Co., Vt. There have been born to them the following children: Thomas P., born Oct. 13, 1842; and Mary L., born Nov. 16, 1844. Thomas P. married, March 8, 1869, Miss Wealthy Whitmore, who was born Dec. 18, 1844; they have had two children, viz.: Horace, born Feb. 25, 1871, died Aug. 15, same year; Edith May, born May 6, 1876.

#### HENRY H. HOWLAND.

Since the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth Rock, the pioneers of America have been men of iron nerve, of energy and perseverance,—men who, when they had once turned their faces westward, turned not back for trifles, but kept resolutely on, until to-day a great and beautiful country shows the work of their strong arms and willing hearts. Such a man is Henry H. Howland, one of the first settlers in the town of Mundy. He was born in the town of Ira, Rutland Co., Vt., April 30, 1807. His father, Banister Howland, was born in the town of Scituate, R. I. After his marriage to Miss Mary Forbes, the elder Mr. Howland moved to Monroe Co., N. Y., where he bought, in 1808, a farm of unimproved land. Here he remained four years, when he moved to the town of Hartland, Niagara Co., N. Y., of which section he was one of the first settlers. The country was then an almost unbroken wilderness. He had just got a start in the new home when the war of 1812 broke out; he was drafted, and served through the war, as his father, Samuel Howland, had previously in the Revolutionary war. At the close of the war Banister went back to his farm, and lived there until 1836, when he again emigrated to a new country, settling in Oakland Co., Mich., where he died, June 11, 1856.

Henry H. lived at home with his father until he was twenty-two, helping to clear up and improve the new farms, and having but a limited chance to acquire an education. He then started out for himself, with no capital save a strong constitution and an abundance of energy and industry. He commenced by taking jobs of chopping and clearing land, and in this way earned the money to buy eighty acres of new land in Troy, Oakland Co. This farm he sold in 1836, when, in company with his uncle, he came to Mundy, Genesee Co., looking for land. It was then a wilderness, with but few inhabitants save its original owners, the Indians. They followed the section lines by the aid of the trees marked by the surveyors. When they came to the land now owned by Mr. Howland, he told his uncle he should locate there unless he found something better. They went west till they struck the big swamp. Mr. Howland climbed a tree, and saw before him only swamp, with the water up to a man's

arms. They then struck south, and the uncle selected his land in Gaines township, while Mr. Howland bought of the government four eighty-acre lots, two hundred and forty acres of which he now owns. There was then no one within one mile of his land, and but twelve families in the town. The next spring, at the first town-meeting, there were but eighteen voters in what is now Gaines and Mundy.

In the spring of 1837, Mr. Howland moved his family, consisting of his wife and two children, to the new home. He had built a log shanty, eighteen by twenty feet, covered with shakes, and without doors or windows. He had to cut his roads in, and ford the streams. Swartz Creek was partly frozen over, and Mr. Howland waded it seven times in one day, with the water up to his arm-pits, breaking the ice with a pole, and then driving his own and his father-in-law's team through, the last trip leading a pig through by the ear. In the log shanty they lived five years, while Mr. Howland was clearing and improving his farm. His supplies were bought in Bloomfield, and five days were consumed in making the trip with an ox-team.

He sold his first wheat for "three-and-sixpence" a bushel, oats ten, and potatoes eight cents per bushel,—not for cash, but in trade out of the store. He was then a man of great strength and powers of endurance, there being few men who could do more of any kind of work than he; by his energy and industry the forest disappeared as if by magic, and soon a well-improved farm was to be seen where so short a time before was only a wilderness. The howl of the wolf was no more to be heard, but in its stead the bleating of sheep and the lowing of cattle.

In 1854 the old home was replaced with the present commodious home, which was at the time of its erection the finest house in Mundy. At the first term of court held in Genesee County, Mr. Howland was one of the jurors, few of whom now survive.

Mr. Howland is now in the seventy-third year of his age, the owner of one of the finest farms in Genesee County, the reward of a lifetime of labor; and here, under his own "vine and fig-tree," he intends to spend the remainder of his days. He is spoken of by those who know him well as a citizen esteemed and respected by all. There are but few men of his age who, like Mr. Howland, can say they never drank a glass of liquor, or any beverage save water. In politics Mr. Howland is a dyed-in-the-wool Republican, having in early days been a Whig. His sons likewise are all Republicans.

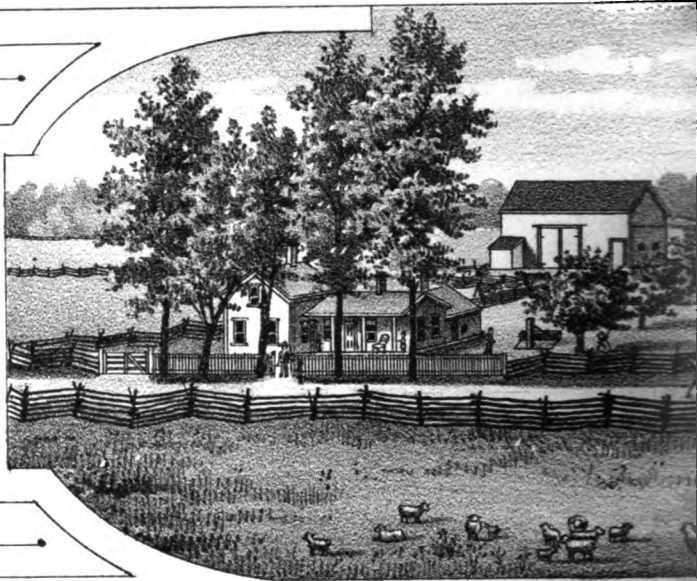
Mr. Howland married, for his first wife, Polly M. Sprague. She was born June 12, 1814. They were married July 15, 1832. Their children were: Barnabas S., born Sept. 8, 1833, died July 23, 1859; Harley H., born Sept. 10, 1836, died July 12, 1854; Banister F., born Aug. 7, 1839, enlisted in Co. G, 8th Michigan Infantry, in July, 1861; killed June 16, 1862, at James Island, S. C., while storming the fort at that place. Mrs. Howland died Dec. 4, 1839. For his second wife he married Esther P. Van Tiffin (born in Rochester, N. Y., Oct. 25, 1822), daughter of Peter and Hannah (Allen) Van Tiffin. There have been born to them five children: Mary P., born Sept. 28, 1840; Aretus S., born Dec. 14, 1841; John C., born Sept. 27, 1843; George W., born April 30, 1845; Millard F., born





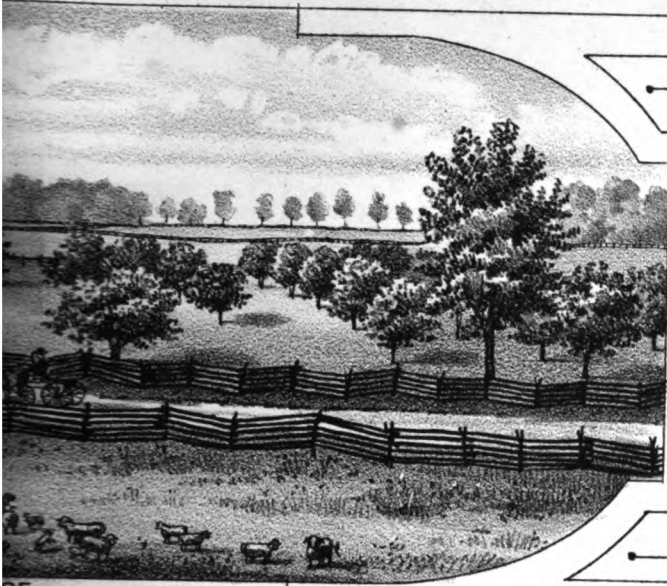


HENRY H. HOWLAND.



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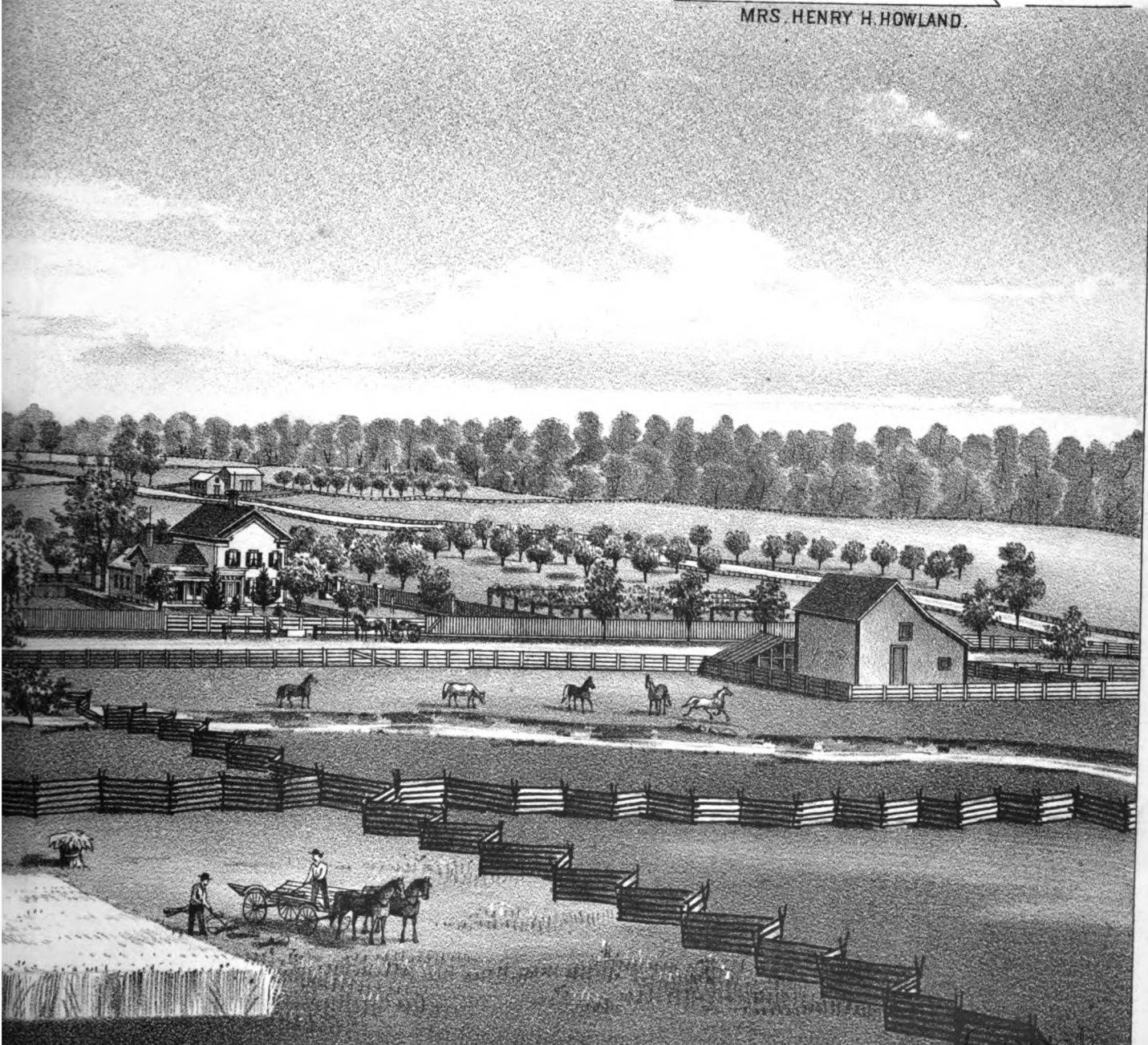




SE.



MRS. HENRY H. HOWLAND.





March 15, 1856. The latter was killed by the cars at Durand, Dec. 9, 1877; he was conductor of a freight train, and was making his last trip as such, prior to taking the position of a passenger conductor.

Aretus Howland is now living on and owns a part of the old farm. The daughter, Mary P., is married and lives at Charlotte. John C. graduated in the literary class of 1870, at Ann Arbor, and afterwards was graduated in the law school. He subsequently practiced law three years with Judge Swift, in Detroit, but is now by himself, and has a good practice. George W. went to Ann Arbor in 1867, and was graduated in the medical school in 1870; he practiced medicine in Pontiac during 1869; since graduating he has had an office in Flint, where he has a good practice.

#### SAMUEL W. ALGER.

The subject of this sketch was born in West Bloomfield, Ontario Co., N. Y., Dec. 2, 1821. He was the son of Josiah Alger, of whom an extended notice is given on another page of this work. Samuel W. came into the town of Mundy in 1836, where he grew to manhood. By long association with the Indians he learned to talk their language fluently, and became an interpreter for them, often going with them to Detroit, where they exchanged their furs for blankets, provisions, etc. He was looked up to by them, and to them his advice and word were law. His son Alvah well remembers his being called to their village to settle disputes. Arrived at his majority, his father gave him the east half of the southwest quarter of section 22 in Mundy, which was then all new. There was then no road to it, Mr. Alger going and coming by Indian trails. On this land he built a log house, set out an orchard, and improved it. He afterwards bought the west half of the southwest quarter of section 22, and also the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the same section, which he improved, and part of which is now owned by his son, Alvah W.

In politics, Mr. Alger was a Democrat, although he never took an active part in political matters. He was married April 24, 1843, to Mary Lovejoy, who was born Oct. 27, 1826. There were born to them Alvah W., born April 11, 1846; Albert, born Dec. 25, 1847; and Charles, born March 21, 1857. Mr. Alger died July 18, 1865.

ALVAH W. ALGER was born on the old homestead, and intends to make it his permanent home. He has done much to beautify it, having built a new and handsome house, good outbuildings, fences, etc. He was married April 17, 1867, Miss Roseltha Childs becoming his consort. She was born in Broome Co., N. Y., April 24, 1846. She is a daughter of Jesse and Clara (Hubbard) Childs. There have been born to them two children, as follows: Benuie E., born Aug. 22, 1871; and Alonzo, born Nov. 28, 1875. In politics, Mr. Alger is a Democrat.

#### JOHN REID

was born in the township of Rush, Monroe Co., N. Y., July 16, 1822. His father, Benjamin T. Reid, came, with his family, to Michigan in 1834, with the intention of

locating, but were taken with the cholera on their way, and within five weeks of their arrival Mr. and Mrs. Reid, one son, and a daughter died. John was then a boy of twelve, and was thus left an orphan and without any means. He made his home with his sister, Mrs. Tupper, with whom he resided until after his marriage. The country was then



JOHN REID.

new, and his chances for an education were limited; still he acquired sufficient to fit him for the active and successful business man he afterwards became. He first bought fifty-four acres of land in Clayton, which he afterwards deeded to Dudley Brainard in exchange for the one hundred and twenty acres now owned by his wife, and which is called the Reid farm. One consideration of the exchange was that Mr. Reid should support Mr. Brainard and his sister during their lifetime. This was his start in life. The farm was cleared and improved by his hard labor, and to it he added, until at the time of his death he was the possessor of three hundred acres of land under improvement. He was the owner and proprietor of the Reid House for twelve years, and became widely known. In politics, Mr. Reid was an ardent Republican, and used his influence and money to advance the interests of his party, although he was never an office-seeker or office-holder. He died Jan. 12, 1875, mourned by a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

Mr. Reid married, Nov. 20, 1845, Miss Almira Halleck, daughter of Amos and Rachel (Crane) Halleck. Mrs. Reid was born, March 5, 1824, in Chittenden Co., Vt. Their union was blessed with four children, as follows: Adelaide J., born May 27, 1847; Susan A., born April 4, 1853; George W., born Nov. 1, 1857; and Alfred H. born Sept. 3, 1860.

#### NATHAN W. SELDEN

was born in Haddam, Conn., Nov. 25, 1810. When he was four years old his father moved to Leroy, Genesee Co., N. Y., where Nathan grew to manhood, going to school winters and working on the farm summers. Arrived at his majority, he started out for himself, with nothing to com-



mence with but a strong constitution and rectitude of purpose. He worked by the month on a farm, and at other times dug wells, thus getting his first start by the hardest kind of labor. In 1835 the Western fever was at its height, and Mr. Selden with many others determined to seek his fortunes in a new country. To think with him was to act; and he came to Michigan and bought of the government the east half of the northwest quarter of section 33, in the town of Mundy. He then returned to New York and stayed one year; the following year he returned, and during the winter cleared a small spot and commenced a log house, after which he returned again to New York.

On the 10th of October, 1838, he led to the altar Miss

peace, which office he held until his death, with the exception of four years,—an incumbency of twenty-four years. He also served as supervisor of his township. Before leaving Leroy, Mr. Selden joined the Presbyterian Church, and he continued a member of that society until his death. Two years after his final settlement in Michigan the first Presbyterian Church of Mundy was organized, Mr. Selden taking an active part in its institution and growth. He was one of its first deacons, and filled that office while he lived. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Selden eight children, as follows: Phineas C., born July 17, 1839, died Aug. 1, 1839; John E., born Feb. 12, 1841, died June 24, 1841; William H., born May 5, 1842; Nathan E.,



NATHAN W. SELDEN.



MRS. NATHAN W. SELDEN.

Harriet R. Dudley, a native of Madison, New Haven Co., Conn., and daughter of Phineas and Elizabeth A. (Graves) Dudley. Soon after their marriage the young couple moved to the farm previously purchased in Mundy, where a partly finished log house awaited them. The house was soon completed, and life in the wilderness began. There were no roads, and near them no clearings; while white neighbors were few and scattering. Yet Mrs. Selden, who proved to be a true pioneer wife, says they enjoyed themselves, and she believes those were the happiest days of their lives. The Indians were their nearest neighbors, but were very friendly, and Mrs. Selden was never afraid of them. Wolves, deer, and other game were numerous, but were unmolested by Mr. Selden, as he was no hunter. With his accustomed energy he at once commenced to improve his place, and soon a well-improved farm, with good buildings, orchards, etc., took the place of the forest. And on this farm he passed the remainder of his life, respected and esteemed by all who knew him. He died May 1, 1869. In politics Mr. Selden was in early life a Whig, subsequently a Republican. He always took an active interest in political and educational matters, and was for many years a school-director. In 1841 he was elected a justice of the

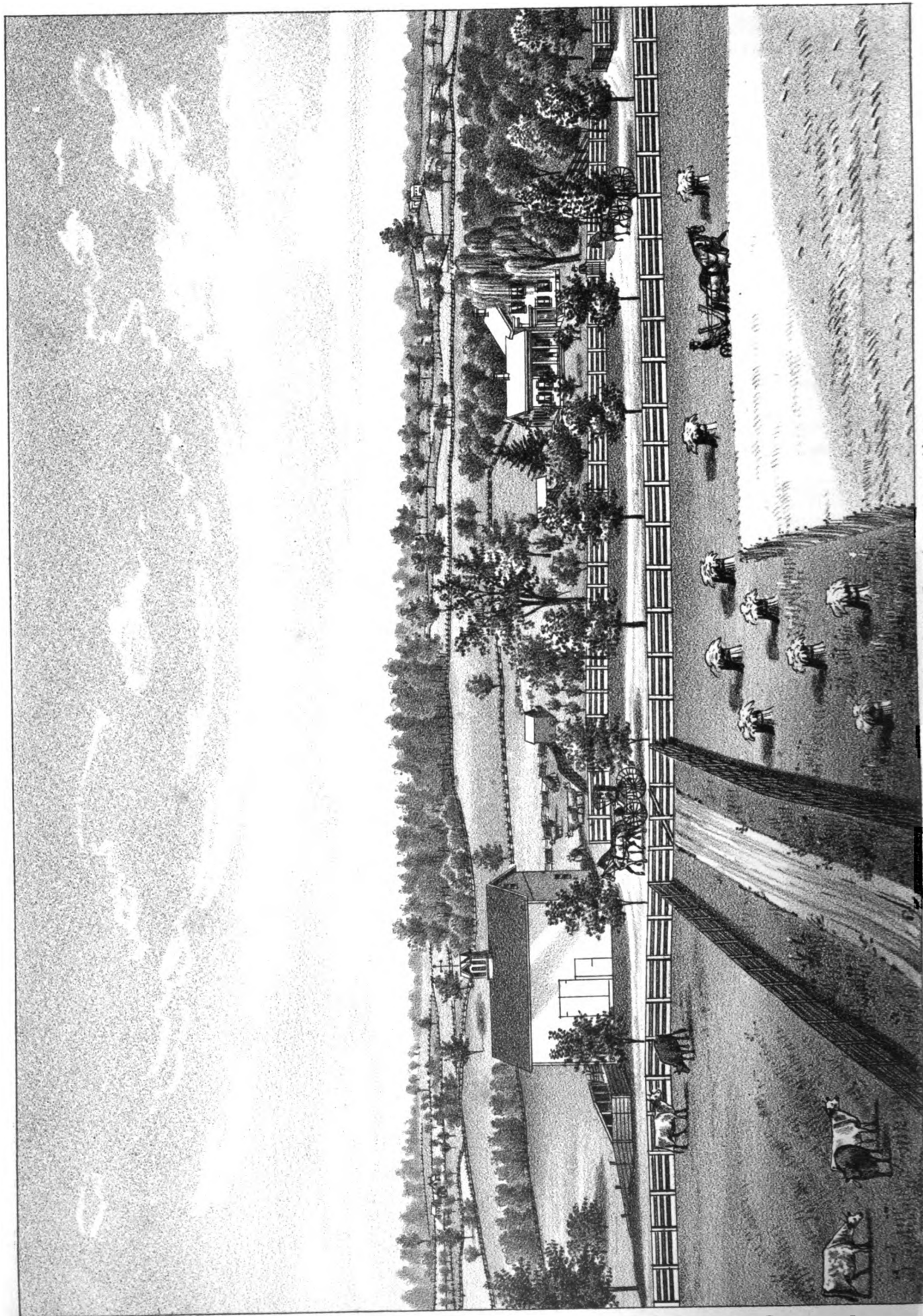
born April 10, 1844; Eliza A., born Dec. 12, 1845; Stephen D., born July 18, 1847; Mary E., born April 20, 1849; and Francis G., born May 16, 1851.

#### CHAUNCEY L. BADGLEY

was born in Batavia, Genesee Co., N. Y., March 5, 1836. His father, William H. Badgley, was born in New York about the year 1809. He married Miss Lovica Green. The result of this union was thirteen children, Chauncey L. being the sixth. The elder Mr. Badgley moved to Michigan in 1849, and settled in Grand Blanc, Genesee Co., where he worked land on shares. When Chauncey was fifteen he went to Flint to learn the moulder's trade, and worked for King & Forsyth. Remained in Flint three years, then went to Grand Rapids, where he worked at his trade one year. Until 1858 he worked in Chicago and Grand Haven at his trade, and also in a saw-mill. In 1858 he joined a party which was formed in Grand Haven to go to California. In St. Louis the party broke up, and Mr. Badgley, who was determined to see the Western world, enlisted on the 29th day of January, 1858, in Co. I, 7th







RESIDENCE OF THE LATE JOHN BOYD, SR., ARGENTINE, MICH.

Regiment U. S. Infantry, Major Paul commanding. Soon afterwards his company went to Utah, where they were kept scouting after the Indians and watching the Mormons. From Utah they were sent to Fort Filmore, New Mexico, marching the entire distance. Remained there, doing frontier service, until the war of the Rebellion broke out. After the first Bull Run, he, with the entire command, was surrendered by Maj. Lynde to the rebels without firing a gun. They were paroled and sent to Fort Montgomery, Rouse's Point, N. Y., where they remained until October, 1862, when they were exchanged, sent to the Army of the Potomac, and assigned to the 5th Corps. Mr. Badgley was in the battle of Fredericksburg and other minor engagements. His time having expired, he was discharged Jan. 29, 1863. Mr. Badgley lost three brothers in the war; one died in Andersonville. After his discharge he returned to Rouse's Point, the attraction being one of its fair daughters. He was married, Feb. 11, 1863, to Miss Anna Doty, daughter of Samson and Arrilla Doty. She was born Nov. 12, 1836, at Peru, Clinton Co., N. Y. Her father, Samson Doty, was born in Wallingford, Rutland

Co., Vt., Feb. 23, 1809; her mother, Arrilla Sutfin, was born in Northumberland, Saratoga Co., N. Y., July 19, 1803. Of their two children, Mrs. Badgley was the eldest. Mr. Doty came to Michigan in 1863, and on the 22d day of February, 1864, he enlisted in Co. F, 8th Michigan Infantry Regiment. Although exempt from military service by reason of his age, he was an ardent patriot, and resolved to fight for his principles. He was killed the 6th day of May, 1864, in the battle of the Wilderness.

After Mr. Badgley's marriage, he, with his father-in-law, came to Michigan and purchased the east half of the southwest quarter of section 28 in Mundy, to which have since been added ten acres. The farm was partly improved, but the subsequent labor and care bestowed upon it have developed it into one of the finest in the town. Mr. Badgley is a Republican, but not a politician. There have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Badgley children as follows: Katy Doty, born April 19, 1864; Ida I., born Sept. 6, 1866; Lillian M., born Feb. 6, 1869; Ruby, born Oct. 10, 1871; Chauncey L., Jr., born June 27, 1875; and Mary E., born Jan. 19, 1878.

## A R G E N T I N E.

ARGENTINE is the southwest-corner township of Genesee County, and is bounded north by Gaines, east by Fenton, south by Livingston County, and west by Shiawassee County. Much of its surface is rolling, and many pleasing landscapes are beheld within its borders. Its soil has the same characteristics as all that in the immediate region. Fine improvements are met with throughout the township, and evidences of prosperity and wealth are seen on nearly every hand. The township is well watered by the Shiawassee River and its tributaries, which furnish considerable power, and numerous lakes and ponds add to the water-area. Principal among the latter are Lobdell, on sections 35 and 36, named after an early settler on its shore; Murray, on section 34, named after the first settler in the township; McKane, on sections 28 and 32; McCaslin, section 22; Bass, section 27, etc. Lobdell Lake has been changed somewhat in area by the raising of a dam at Argentine village. The shores in many places are marshy, and in various parts of the township tamarack-swamps exist.

This township at first included what is now Fenton, which latter was first settled. A large acreage of timber is yet left, although but a portion of this township was heavily timbered, the balance being "oak-openings."

Through this town, as through all others in this region when first settled, roamed great numbers of wolves and deer, with an occasional bear or panther, and the lover of sport could enjoy himself to the utmost.

### LAND ENTRIES.

The following is a list of the entries of land in what now constitutes the township of Argentine:

SECTION 1.		Acres.
Abjiah B. Dunlap, Seneca Co., N. Y., April 6, 1836.....		85.84
Nelson Stickney, Oakland Co., Mich., June 14, 1836.....		80
Gilman Davis, Wayne Co., Mich., June 14, 1836.....		95.41
Phineas Davis, " " " Aug. 3, 1836.....		240
Ira Lamb, Genesee Co., Mich., Nov. 14, 1836.....		80
Philip S. Hubbell, Livingston Co., Mich., Nov. 14, 1836.....		80
SECTION 2.		
Cyrus Eddy, Jefferson Co., N. Y., June 13, 1836.....		160
Hiram Bellows, Franklin Co., N. Y., June 25, 1836.....		80
John Patterson, Wayne Co., N. Y., Aug. 1, 1836.....		176.57
Hinman Rexford, Livingston Co., Mich., Aug. 3, 1836.....		174.27
David Tillman, Genesee Co., Mich., Nov. 14, 1836.....		80
SECTION 3.		
David and William I. Williams, Jefferson Co., N. Y., June 13, 1836.....		80
Horace Parmelee, Clermont, N. H., July 16, 1836.....		160
James Wadsworth, Livingston Co., N. Y., July 16, 1836.....		343.12
Charles Conden, St. Clair Co., Mich., June 18, 1846.....		40
Thomas H. Gilbert, Genesee Co., Mich., June 16, 1849.....		40
SECTION 4.		
Allen Spencer, Allegany Co., N. Y., July 13, 1836.....		657.73
SECTION 5.		
Allen Spencoer, Allegany Co., N. Y., July 13, 1836.....		488.83
James Bogert, Orange Co., N. Y., July 16, 1836.....		169.72
SECTION 6.		
Sarah A. Preston, Oakland Co., Mich., July 13, 1836.....		85.66
James N. Smith, Ulster Co., N. Y., July 14, 1836.....		160
Foster D. Preston, Oakland Co., Mich., Aug. 1, 1836.....		79.60
Scott, Bixley & Co., Addison Co., Vt., Aug. 2, 1836.....		238.84
Clarissa B. Preston, Oakland Co., Mich., July 14, 1836.....		80.08
SECTION 7.		
John Myers, Cayuga Co., N. Y., July, 1836.....		80
Scott, Bixley & Co., Addison Co., Vt., August, 1836.....		80
Phineas Davis, Wayne Co., Mich., " " " ".....		237.36
George Guff, Ontario Co., N. Y., October, 1836.....		80
" " " " " " " ".....		155.84