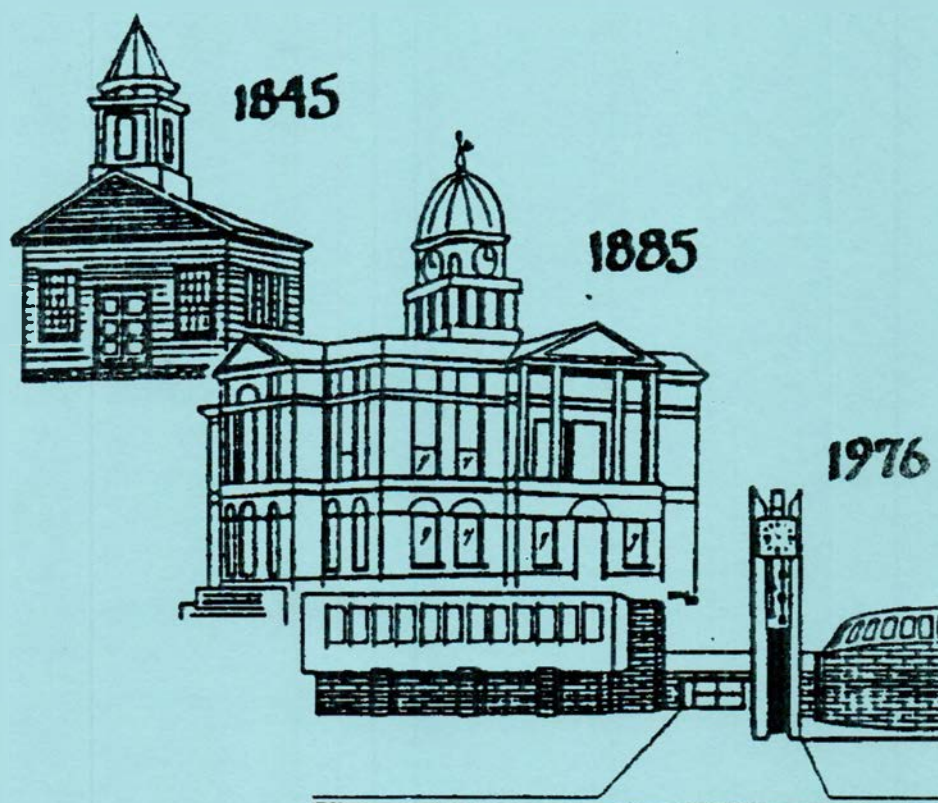


Eaton County Quest



Newsletter
Eaton County Genealogical Society
Eaton County, Michigan

Issue #68

January – April 2010

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Eaton County Genealogical Society

Quest

Issue # 68

January – April 2010

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Eaton County Genealogical Society

1885 Historical Courthouse
100 West Lawrence Avenue
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2009 - 2010 Officers:

President	Marcy Cousino
Vice President	Shar Brown & Shirley Hodges
Treasurer	Stephen F Smith
Corresponding Secretary	Sheila Mott
Membership Secretary	Barbara Smith
Recording Secretary	Susan Polhamus
Librarian	Sharlene Thuma
Historian	Betty L Goostrey
Publicity	Edward Dunning
Quest Editor	Vicki L Dukes
Webmaster	Sherry Copenhaver
Michigan Genealogical Council Delegate	Jim Collins
Michigan Genealogical Council Delegate	Shar Brown
Alternates	Jo Glasgow & Betty Polhamus
Federation of Genealogical Societies Delegate	Shirley Hodges

Eaton County Genealogical Society Library Research Rooms

Location: ground floor of the 1885 Historical Courthouse
corner of Lawrence Avenue and Cochran Avenue in
down town Charlotte, Michigan. Handicap accessible
from back parking lot.

Membership Meetings: 7:00 pm

3rd Wednesday of March thru October

2nd Wednesday of November

No membership meetings: December, January and February.

Research Room Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

(Please call ahead if coming from a long distance to ensure the room is open.)

Visit Our Web Site: www.miegs.org



Hello My Genealogical Friends:

I hope that everyone had a very productive year adding to their family tree. With that in mind, I hope to hear from you soon. Everyone has family histories or stories to tell or a family tree to share. I am always looking for that kind of information to put into the Quest. Please consider sharing your latest summer adventures and send it to me.

Maybe you have reached a brick wall and think you cannot go any further. Share that problem with the membership and just, maybe, someone out there may have an answer or a solution to your problem.

Renew your membership and you get the Quest. Encourage others to do the same. I hope to hear from several of you real soon.

If you should see Mary Jean Baker, Larry Randall, Shirley Hodges, David Haueter, Betty Goostrey, Sheila Mott, Marcy Cousino or Sue Polhamus; please give them a big thank you. They devote a lot of their time into research for articles for the Quest. Marcy Cousino and Sue Polhamus developed a program to bring you the Eaton County death records. Without everyone's help, it would not be possible for me to have a Quest to send to print for your reading pleasure. I personally owe them a lot and greatly appreciate all their help.

Thank you for supporting ECGS!

ECGS Website Update

By Sherry Copenhaver

Webmaster

Please take the time to check out the website for ECGS. It is constantly changing with new items being added.

New Databases:

Featured Database Index: Our first featured complete name index is the 1938 Home Survey cards. This index actually has two indexes; one by address and another by occupant/owner name. Scanned images are available from our index system. Periodically, I will change to a different index. I was thinking of the 1895 or 1913 plat map next.

Past Quest Issues: A new listing of Quest issues is available on website where you can click on the issue number and a scanned image of the Table of contents and name index (if available for that issue) comes up (pdf files). These issues are for sale.

Surname Contacts: We have had index cards where people fill out who they are researching. Some of these cards contain information about names being researched. A complete name index and all available information for the Names Being Researched is available on the website. We are also asking people to provide us with their research using one of three methods: a hand-written form to be mailed to us, a fillable Word form to email to us or a GEDCOM file to email to us for their Eaton County ancestors.

Death Index: The death record index pages have been scanned and now are on the web site. The ECGS research room has the microfilm of the complete death record for further information.

Library Collections: This is a separate box at the top of our Collections page that lists important new items ECGS has received.

Featured Items For Sale: This is a new page that will feature items ECGS has for sale. Our first featured item is the book "Sheldon Wight – His Story". This will be changed now and then.

New indexes are being made or added to weekly by our members who devote their time to abstract this information from our huge collection of court records and donated materials.

Visit Our Web Site: www.miegs.org

John Calvin Beekman

John Calvin Beekman is one of the representative citizens and progressive men of Charlotte. He was born in Chester Township, this county, August 21, 1844, and is a son of **Martin and Mary VanLieu (Minor) Beekman**, both of whom were born in the state of New Jersey. (**Martin** on November 30, 1806, and **Mary** on May 2, 1804.)

Both families were founded in America in the early colonial era, and the **Beekman** family being of staunch Holland Dutch extraction, the name having been one of much prominence in the history of New Jersey. The father died in Chester Township, January 13, 1881, on the old homestead farm which he secured from the government in 1837, and his widow continued to remain on the home place, endeared to her by the associations of the past until her death, April 29, 1893; only three days prior to her ninetieth birthday. They were married in the state of New York, April 25, 1840.

Martin Beekman was reared to manhood in his native commonwealth, where he was identified with agricultural pursuits until 1837, when he came with his father, **Henry Beekman**, to Marshall, MI, and a few days later they came to Eaton County and he purchased one hundred and forty-seven acres of land in the midst of the forest, in section 6, Chester Township. **Henry Beekman** died in this township June 6, 1830 at the age of eighty-five years; he was born in New Jersey.

Martin Beekman selected the old homestead by reason of the fact that the main road between Jackson and Grand Rapids had been surveyed past the place, though the thoroughfare had not yet been opened through the forest. He built a log house on the back part of the farm, about one hundred and forty rods from the road, selecting this site because the ground was higher. On this farm **Henry Beekman** lived with his son until his death.

They kept "bachelor's hall" nearly a year, and were then joined by a maiden daughter of **Henry Beekman**, **Miss Ann Beekman**, who presided over the domestic economies of the household about two years, after which **Martin Beekman** returned to New York and married, bringing his bride to the new home in the wilds of Eaton County.

Wild game of all kinds was plentiful and largely supplied the larders of the pioneers. The subject of this sketch has in his possession a muzzle-loading shot gun which was fund by his paternal grandfather in a mill pond in the state of New Jersey, having been in use during the war of the Revolution, while the same was used for hunting in the early days in Michigan, and thus continued to be brought into requisition until a few years ago.

There were but few families living in the township at the time of the settling of the **Beekmans**, and for a time Marshall was the nearest milling point. **Martin Beekman** built the first frame house in this section of the township, and he developed his original farm. He later purchased eighty acres in Roxand Township, eighty in Ionia County and another eighty in Chester Township. He had divided all of the property among his children prior to his death.

John Calvin Beekman

He and his wife were numbered among the original members of the Presbyterian Church of Roxand and Sunfield, **Martin Beekman** having united with the church in 1832. After his death one of the pastor's of his church spoke of him as follows: *"To the pioneer Christian is house was a Bethel. To my certain knowledge the sacrifice of prayer and praise was continually offered on his family altar, never pandering the performance of this duty to meet or accommodate worldly contingencies. As far as we may be permitted to judge, Mr. Beekman was a Christian in a high sense of moral principle. Those who knew him the longest and most intimately will bear me out in saying that his faults were comparatively few, with no direct tendency to injure any fellow creature. During a personal acquaintance of over forty years, I have yet to learn of the first instance of his ever trying to injure anyone, in either word or deed."* **Martin Beekman** did, indeed, hold a high place in the esteem and confidence of the community, and he served many years in various local offices, especially that of justice of the peace, also having been township clerk and treasurer. He was originally a Whig and later a Republican in politics.

Of his four children, the eldest, **Henry M.**, died at the age of four years; **William M.** is individually mentioned elsewhere in these pages; **John C.**, of this sketch, was the third; and Benjamin F., who died January 21, 1950, married **Alice Griffin**, who survives him, as do also their two daughters, **Mrs. Bertha Nagle** and **Mrs. Ida Bosworth**.

John C. Beekman, was afforded the advantages of the district school of his section of Chester Township, and supplemented this by attending Charlotte Academy one term. He continued associated with the work of the home farm until he had attained his legal majority, when his father gave him eighty acres of the old place, in Chester Township, the land being nearly all under cultivation at the time. He built a frame house and a granary and continued to give his attention to the cultivation and improvement of the homestead. In 1876 he purchased two acres of land across the road, in section 31, Roxand Township, and moved his house on to this land, where he continued to reside until 1884, when he sold the property and purchased his present farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in section 28, Oneida Township, his wife having been born on this place, where her father took up his residence in 1842. Her birth occurred May 10, 1850. This land he has recently sold.

December 31, 1867, **Mr. Beekman** was united in marriage to **Miss Catherine McMullen**, daughter of **Edward and Margaret (Barrett) McMullen**, both native of Ireland, where the former was born in 1809. **Mr. McMullen** died on the farm then owned and occupied by **Mr. Beekman** on March 30, 1876; his wife died on the same homestead April 20, 1891, at the age of seventy-three years. They were married in Niagara County, New York. **Mr. McMullen** having come to America in 1830 and his wife having come here with her parents about two years later.

Mr. McMullen became the owner of a farm in Niagara County, New York, where he remained until 1842, when he traded the same for the homestead where he died. In making the exchange the stipulation had been made that a log house should be erected on the place and five acres of land cleared, but when the family arrived in Oneida Township, November 6, 1842, they found that no improvements had been made. They

John Calvin Beekman

accordingly took up their residence in a log school house, not then in use, where they lived until the following April, by which time **Mr. McMullen** had completed his log house, just west of the substantial brick residence, which he erected in later years. He and his family encountered the vicissitudes and contingencies common to the pioneer days, and he succeeded in accumulating a competency through his well directed endeavors, having added two hundred and eighty acres to his original landed estate and having divided this among his children prior to his death. The parents resided continuously on the farm, save for two years passed in Lansing, where they owned a home, until they were called to the life eternal, both having been communicants of the Catholic Church, while in politics **Mr. McMullen** was a staunch Democrat.

Of the ten children **Mrs. Beekman** was the seventh: **Michael** is a resident of Sheridan, Montcalm County; **John** died in Oneida Township, January 20, 1884; **William** is a resident of Ionia; **Matthias** died at the age of five years; **Bernard** is a resident of Buffalo, New York; **Mary A.** died in infancy; **Mrs. Beekman** was next in order of birth; **Joseph** is a resident of Carson City, Montcalm County; **Ellen** is the wife of **Ceyland Earl**, of Oneida Township; and **Cornelius** died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Beekman have one son, **Edward B.**, who was born in Roxand Township, March 17, 1878, and who resides in Lansing, MI. He is a master Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias, is a Republican in politics and was the first rural mail carrier in Eaton County. He held this position three years. In 1903 he served as census enumerator of Oneida Township. He is one of the popular young men of this part of the county, and was educated in the district schools, the Charlotte High School and the Battle Creek Business College. The subject of this review has been identified with the Blue Lodge of the Masonic Fraternity for the past forty years and in politics he is a staunch Republican. He served as highway commissioner of Chester Township and has been nominated for various other township offices, but has been unable to overcome the Democratic majorities, though at one time, when candidate for supervisor, he cut the normal majority from one hundred to but two votes, indicating his personal popularity. He is a progressive man and has a most attractive home in the city of Charlotte.

Source: Past and Present of Eaton County, pg 182 – 184, book located in the ECGS research room. Abstracted by Vicki L Dukes.

Preserving Memories

Creative ways to save and share your family history

By Vicki L Dukes

Safe Keeping: Military Uniforms

Military uniforms are made tough and see a lot of action, which often leaves them worse for wear. But preserving your ancestor's dress blues, red coats or camo greens doesn't have to be a battle. Follow these marching orders, and you'll be able to save the uniforms for future generations to honor.

The most important guideline: Protect your heirloom textiles from sunlight, moisture and insects. Don't keep the clothes in the attic or basement, the temperature extremes and risk of water damage are too dangerous.

It's best not to attempt to clean vintage duds yourself. Find a dry cleaner who specializes in antique clothing, or consult a conservator. (You can find tips for tracking down an expert at: www.conservation-us.org) If the uniform is modern, clean it as its care instructions dictate, and then store the uniform as carefully as you would a vintage one.

It's OK to keep the suit in a closet on a padded hanger for the short term. You can pad a hanger with polyester batting and wrap it in unbleached, washed muslin to create a custom fit. But for the long term, you'll want to store the uniform horizontally.

Flat garment boxes are available from any of the suppliers listed. Never store heirloom textiles in plastic bags. Wrap individual pieces with acid-free tissue paper, and be sure to pad folds with tissue paper, too, to prevent creasing. Store hats, gloves and shoes in archival boxes with acid-free tissue padding to help the items keep their shape.

Resources:

Gaylord Brothers: www.gaylordmart.com

Hollinger Metal Edge: www.genealogicalstorageproducts.com

University Products: www.archivalsuppliers.com

Source: Family Tree Magazine, "Preserving Memories", Dobush, Grace; Issue: November 2009, page 61.

Web Cites Reference Samples

Take the mystery out of documenting online sources

By Vicki L Dukes

You do genealogy for fun but you take the accuracy of your work seriously. After all who wants to waste time tracing the wrong ancestors? That means you need to record where you find each piece of information, so you can distinguish facts from conjecture or family lore.

What should a citation of an online source look like? Follow these three footnote examples and consult Emily Anne Croom's e-book "[Genealogists' Guide to Documentation and Citing Sources](#)", which you can download free from www.unpuzzling.com/books.php

CENSUS RECORD

1850 US census, Allegany County, New York, population schedule, p. 250, dwelling 237, family 251, Jonathan Hall; digital images, Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com: downloaded 24 October 2008)

LOCAL HISTORY BOOK

J. E. A. Smith, "[The History of Pittsfield](#)" (Berkshire County) Massachusetts from the Year 1800 to the Year 1876 (Springfield, Mass.: C. W. Bryan & Co., 1876), 393-394; digital images, Heritage Quest Online (www.heritagequestonline.com: downloaded 23 July 2009)

PASSENGER LIST

"[Passenger Record](#)," database and digital images, Ellis Island – Free Port of New York Passenger Records Search (www.ellisland.org: downloaded 23 July 2009) S. S. Philadelphia, port of departure: LaGuaira, Venezuela, date of arrival: Sept 20, 1893, John H Pennington, 41 years, male, tourist, citizen – US.

Source: [Family Tree Magazine](#), Web Cites by Rick Crume, December 2009, pg 67.

Lost Census

What happened to the 1890 US Census Records?

By Vicki L Dukes

The 1890 census is a sore subject for genealogists: It sparks bad dreams, anguished "if onlys" and anxieties over brick walls. Why? More than 99 percent of the records were destroyed January 10, 1921, during a fire in the basement of the Commerce Building in Washington, DC.

When the fire broke out, firefighters flooded the basement with water. The flames didn't spread to upper floors, but the 1890 census records – that were piled outside a storage vault were soaked. Some of the census schedules stored inside the supposedly waterproof vault got wet. The cause of the blaze couldn't be determined.

The records continued to sit in storage for a while, and no restoration efforts were made. Rumors circulated that they'd be disposed of; various groups protesting such measures were assured the rumors were unfounded. But sometime between 1933 and 1935, the records were destroyed along with other papers the Census Bureau deemed no longer necessary.

Fragments of the 1890 census bearing 6,160 names later turned up; they're on microfilm and Web sites such as Ancestry.com (www.ancestry.com)

Also surviving are special schedules of Union veterans and their widows for half of Kentucky and states alphabetically following it.

In a precursor to the 1921 tragedy, an 1896 fire damaged 1890 supplemental schedules of mortality, crime, pauperism and "special classes." They were later destroyed by order of the Interior Department. For help filling the holes left in your tree by the 1890 census go to: www.familytreemagazine.com/article/reconstructing-the-1890-census

Source: Family Tree Magazine, "Now What?", Diane Haddad, issue: July 2009 pg 15.

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Are you willing to have it put into the Quest?

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History of Log Cabins

By David S. Haueter

Early local historians described the different type of homes built by Eaton County pioneers. The crudest and easiest to build were the shanties. Small limbs or saplings were used, sizes that could be handled by one man. These were stacked simply one on top of the other forming crib or pen-like boxes. These were topped with brush or bark to keep the weather out. Some more permanent shanties were built of thicker poles and had one wall taller than the rest. The roof, forming a slope when applied, would then easily shed water and snow. The roofs were often made using logs that were split in two and hollowed out. They were set in rows with the hollow side up to catch the rain, and then to cover the joints between them, more logs were placed over each joint with the hollow side down.

Log cabins required more work and more hands. Timber was everywhere and many of the old trees were so tall that the first branches didn't start until 50-60 feet above the ground. These produced long timbers for building. The quickest type of cabin used logs still in their bark. They were notched at the ends and stacked together. Empty space in between was filled with mud. Openings were cut in for fireplaces, windows and doors. Fireplaces were made of stacked stone and mud. Chimneys were made of sticks plastered over inside and out with mud. Roofs were made of shingles hewn from the logs.

The next cabin type, and most common, used logs that had their bark removed. The inner side of each log would then be sawn flat. This produced rooms with flat interior walls and rounded logs outside. Over the years, these walls could be painted, plastered or papered without anyone knowing they were built of logs.

The best type of log home was rare and required more time and skill. The logs were sawn into square beams and held together with dovetail joints at the corners. These were called "block homes". The Eagle Hotel in Charlotte was of this type.

Cabins were one and a half stories tall. The loft being made of split logs or boards. The roof would extend out over a porch or "stoop" on one end. At first all cooking was done in the open fireplace. Pots were hung over the hot coals and tin boxes or "ovens" were placed in the fire for roasting and baking. When cook stoves came to Eaton County about 1850, settlers often put these out on the stoop, which was then enclosed to form a kitchen. There was no glass for windows, so greased paper or cloth was often stretched over the openings. Floors could be made from boards, but were just as often dirt.

David S. Haueter is a Grand Ledge native and local historian. For contact information or more articles he has written on local history, go to www.historyql.blogspot.com

Beekman Family Facts

By Mary Jean Baker

A delayed birth record was found for **Edward Bernard Beekman**. He was born in Roxand Township, Eaton County on 17 March 1878. His parents were **John Calvin Beekman**, a farmer. **John** was born in Chester Township, Eaton County. **Edward's** mother was **Catherine McMullen**, born in Oneida Township. She was a house wife. **Edward** was the first child born to this couple.

Unable to locate a death record for Edward.

Death records for the following:

Vol. 6, page 510

Date of death: 12 May, 1921

John Calvin Beekman, white male, married, age 76 years

Died of cancer of intestines

Born in Mich.

Parents: **Martin Beekman and Mary Miner**, both of Michigan

Vol. 7, page 376

Date of death: 6 October, 1925

Catherine Beekman, white female, widowed, age 75 years, 4 months 27 days

Died of cerebral hem.

Born in Mich.

Parents: **Ed McMillan and Myart Barrett**, both of Ireland.

Vol. 5, page 645

Date of death: 13 June 1916

Wm. M. Beekman, white male, widower, age 73 years, 5 months, 11 days

Died of apoplexy and paralysis.

Born in Mich. and was retired.

Parents: **Martin Beekman and Mary V Minor**, both born in N. Y.

Vol. 2, page 10

Date of death: 13 Jan 1881

Martin Beekman, white male, married, age 74 years, 1 month 25 days

He lived in Carmel

Died of typhroid pneumonia

Born in NJ and was a farmer

Parents: **Henry Beekman** born in Chester and **Rachel Beekman** born in NY

Beekman Family Facts

Found in the Oakwood Cemetery, Oneida Twp records:

Alicena C Beekman	1874 – 1972
Catherine Beekman	1850 – 1925
Edward B Beekman	17 Mar 1878 – 1963
John Calvin Beekman	21 Aug 1844 – 1921

Scrapbook #31, page 69

Thursday, 17 May 1945
Beekman - Lipsey

Mrs. Alicene Lipsey of Grand Ledge and **Edward Beekman** of Lansing were quietly married at the home of the bride, 231 East Scott Street, last Friday afternoon. Rev G I Giddings officiating. **Mrs. Beekman** is well known in this community and was for many years a state employee. The couple will reside at the **Beekman** home in Lansing.

Charlotte Sanitarium 1908, page 63

There is a write-up on **John C Beekman**, **Edward's** father. It tells that **Edward B** is a popular young business man of Lansing.

Centennial Family File

In the ECGS Resource Room there is a centennial family file on the Beekman family.

Source: Several resources were used in the ECGS Research Room. Abstracted by Mary Jean Baker.

The Probate Court for the County of Eaton

At a session of said Court held at the Probate Office in the city of Charlotte, in said County, on the 22d day of March A. D., 1944

PRESENT, HON. ION C. McLAUGHLIN, JUDGE OF PROBATE

In the Matter of EDWARD BERNARD BEEKMAN
Application for Delayed Registration of Birth.

Hearing on petition of Edward Bernard Beekman for the delayed registration of birth of said Edward Bernard Beekman said petition having been heretofore filed in this Court and cause and this day having been fixed for the hearing on said petition, and said Edward Bernard Beekman having appeared personally and it appearing to said Court that an order should be entered in accordance with the prayer of said petition;

It is Therefore Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the said Edward Bernard Beekman is a resident of the city of Laosling of xxx County and State, and was born in the township of Roxand County of Eaton and State of Michigan, on the 17th day of March 1878 that the petitioner is a male; that petitioner's color is white and was the single child born at single birth and of legitimate birth; that petitioner's father's full name was John Calvin Beekman and resides at Roxand twp. Eaton County, Michigan and his color was white and was of the age of 33 years at last birthday; was born at Chester Township, Eaton County, Michigan and his occupation is farmer; that petitioner's mother's full name was Catherine McMullen and resides at Roxand Township, Eaton County, Michigan and her color was white and was of the age of 28 years at last birthday; was born at Oneida twp. Eaton County, Michigan and her occupation is housewife that petitioner was the first child of said mother who has one child xx now living.

It is Further Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that the State Health Commissioner of the State of Michigan shall, on the presentation of a certified copy of this order, register said birth as is provided by Act No. 35 of the Public Acts of 1931 for the State of Michigan.

Ion C. McLaughlin
Judge of Probate

Filed 194 Liber Page

Register of Probate

Angels

Angels are the guardians of hope and wonder; the keepers of magic and dreams.

Angels watch over you wherever you go, keeping each day perfect and promising a bright new tomorrow.

The motto of all angels is "it's a wonderful life"

Wherever there is love, an angel is flying by.

Angels help you carry the ball, carry a tune, carry your weight and carry on!

Your guardian angel knows you inside and out and loves you just the way you are.

Angels keep the world safe for hummingbirds and butterflies and rainbows in spring.

Angels keep it simple and always travel light.

Angels love whispering secrets and whistling in the dark.

Whenever you hear music, an angel is speaking to you.

Remember to leave space in your relationships so the angels have room to play.

Your guardian angel helps you find a place when you feel there's no place to go.

Keep a spare angel in your pocket.

Angels carry high-beam lights to help you through the darkest hours; whenever you feel lonely, a special angel drops in for tea.

Angels know that love is the only four letter word.

We are always "angels on call" for a friend.

Every time you hear a bell, another angel has earned its wings!

Angels are with you every step of the way and help you soar with amazing grace.

After all, we are angels in training; all we have to do is spread our wings and fly.

Source: on a card provided by Franciscan Mission Associates, PO Box 598, Mount Vernon, NY 10551-0598

Queries From ECGS Membership

Jan from Nebraska was looking for **Kaylor Family** information and asked for a photo of a tomb stone in Oakwood Cemetery Hamlin Township. **LJR**, a room volunteer, came to her rescue and found the following for her.

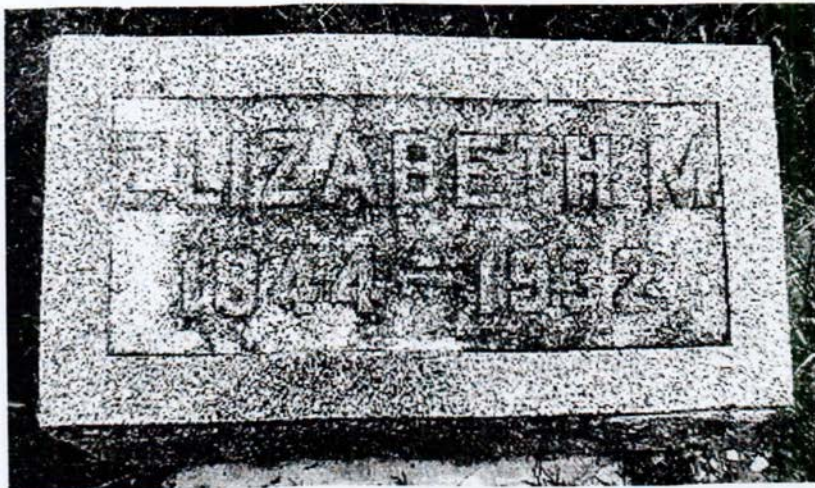
Robert A. Kaylor (1876 - Mar. 2, 1917) using findagrave.com.

According to **LJR**, while he was at Oakwood Cemetery he took other photos of the **Kaylor family**. Experience has taught him to get all the photos belonging to the requested family members. A photo of **Elizabeth** was also taken at that time, and he sent to Jan for her approval.

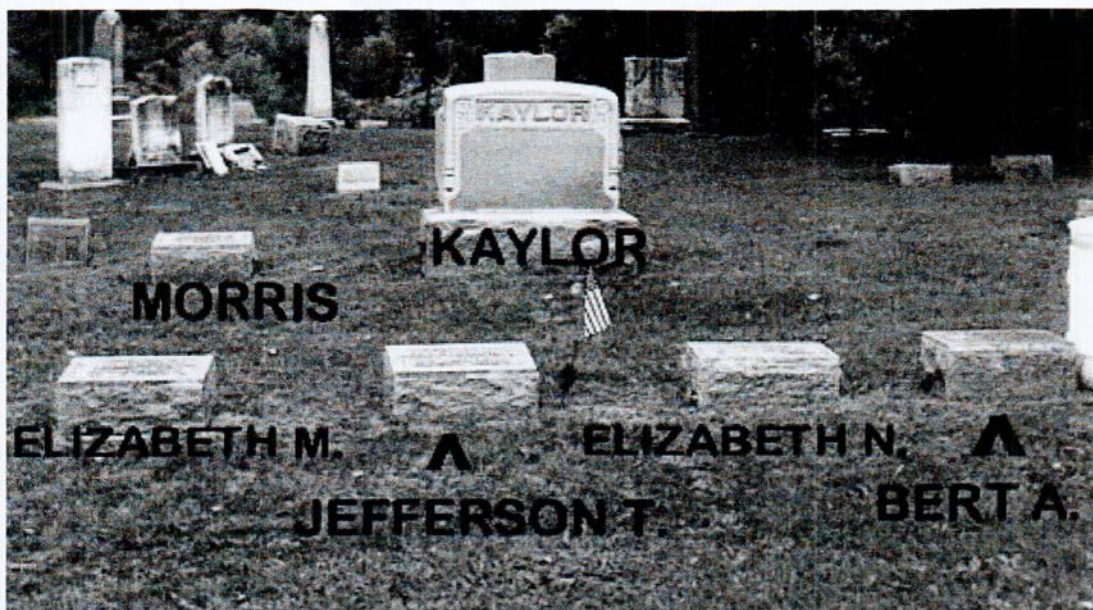
BUT he had sent the wrong **Elizabeth** along with **Robert's** photo. Later, the other photos were posted on Findagrave.com for a total of five, including wife, **Elizabeth** number two.



Oakwood Cemetery with with Rose Hill in the far background. There use to be a trail between the two cemeteries.



Queries From ECGS Membership



(Pictures furnished by LJR)

Below is the note that Jan sent us.

Hi Larry.....

WOW !!! Wonders never cease.....!!!! You have found a stone that "NO ONE ELSE" & I do mean "NO ONE ELSE" family or researchers have been able to find. The stone for the first **Elizabeth N. (Brown) Kaylor**. She also was born in 1844 & was a cousin to the #2 wife - **Elizabeth Ann (Mathews)** b 1844 & died 1932

Both were wives of **Thomas Jefferson "Jeff" Kaylor**. Did you also happen to see a stone for **Elizabeth Ann KAYLOR** 1844 - 1932 ?? Sure would appreciate.... if you could or did & thought something was wierd. I have now put up a listing for the 1st **Elizabeth N.** 1844-1889. We couldn't find out what cemetery she was buried in. If you would like to switch the photo onto her grave-site listing.....

Thank You so much.....

Jan from Nebraska

(Jan's complete name and address is on file in the ECGS research room)

Church Records in Family History Research

Column published: 23 June 2006

By: **Shirley Gage Hodges** *Biography & Archived Articles*

Church records rank among the very best genealogical records available and were generally kept in a much earlier time period than were civil vital records. We find, however, that church records tend to be one of the least used of the many avenues of research available to the genealogist. This is probably because most folks don't realize what a treasure trove of information is hidden in these records. Perhaps the greatest value of church records is that they do occur far earlier than the civil recordings of birth, marriage, and death. Because civil records are not always available, church records can be vital in reconstructing your family.



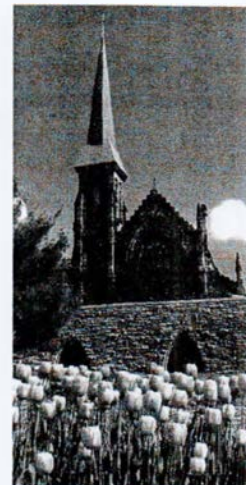
Baptism, marriage, and burial registers are the records most frequently consulted by genealogists, as they document the vital events of individual congregational members. Other useful records include board and committee minutes, communion rolls and all forms of membership lists; i.e., circuit registers, and historic rolls.

You can't expect church records to take the place of vital records and wills and deeds. But never underestimate their potential in solving difficult problems and in providing local color for your history.

Church records are also very good supplements to civil vital records. They are excellent sources to fill gaps where official records are missing or were never kept. They often contain important facts that are not recorded in any other source. They help us to tell our ancestor's story. Church records have great possibilities for genealogical research, but they are best used as a way to solve some of the puzzles in our family histories.

Here are some of the types of records that I will encourage you to look for:

- Baptism, marriage and burial records
- Church census records
- Membership lists of arriving or new members, departing members.
- Members who have been excommunicated, read out of meetings or censured.
- Minutes of various organizations within a church
- Records of church socials



Church Records in Family History Research

- Biographical notes on members
- Transcriptions of talks or testimonies given in a particular meeting
- Notes on funeral ceremonies with references to the names of family members who attended

Suggested resources:

- Yearbook of American and Canadian Churches is published yearly by the National Council of Churches in the USA and is the most up-to-date compilation of contacts, facts and figures on US and Canadian churches and church agencies, published by the National Council of Churches in the USA.
- Kirkham, E. Kay. A Survey of American Church Records: Major and Minor Denominations Before 1880-1890.
- Kirkham, E. Kay. A Survey of American Church Records: For the period before the Civil War, East of the Mississippi River

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Eaton County Death Records

Page: 40
File Number: 748
Date of Death: 2 January 1871
Date Recorded: 30 May 1872
Name: **Flora SHOWALTER**
Age: 2y 4m 5d Sex: F
Place of Death: Kalamo
Cause of Death: General Debility
Birthplace: Kalamo
Residence: Kalamo
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Unknown**
Mother: **Unknown**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 40
File Number: 749
Date of Death: 15 July 1871
Date Recorded: 30 May 1872
Name: **Levin A WALTERSDORF**
Age: 31y 6m 20d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Chester
Cause of Death: Consumption
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Residence: Chester
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Daniel G. WALTERSDORF**
Mother: **Susanna WALTERSDORF**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 40
File Number: 750
Date of Death: 29 August 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Asa REYNOLDS**
Age: 78y Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Eaton Co Poorhouse
Cause of Death: Debility
Birthplace: New York
Residence:
Occupation: Laborer
Parents:
Father: **Unknown**
Mother: **Unknown**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 40
File Number: 751
Date of Death: 22 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **_____ FREED**
Age: (blank) Sex: M
Place of Death: Chester
Cause of Death: Unknown
Birthplace: Chester
Residence: Chester
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Henry H. FREED**
Mother: **Anna M. FREED**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 40
File Number: 752
Date of Death: 30 March 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Michael Gallahar**
Age: 16y 8m Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Chester
Cause of Death: Spinal Disease
Birthplace: Canada
Residence: Chester
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Daniel Gallahar**
Mother: **Catherine Gallahar**
Parent's Residence: Chester

Page: 40
File Number: 753
Date of Death: 24 June 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Catherine McCormick**
Age: 43y Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Chester
Cause of Death: Spinal Disease
Birthplace: Ireland
Residence: Chester
Occupation: Housekeeper
Parents:
Father: **Michael Gallahar**
Mother: **Mary Gallahar**
Parent's Residence: Ireland

Eaton County Death Records

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File Number: 754
Date of Death: 5 February 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Thomas Donoly**
Age: 45y 11m 21d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Ashland C., Ohio
Cause of Death: Neuralgia of Stomak
Birthplace: Ohio
Residence: Chester
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Thomas Donoly**
Mother: **Susanna Donoly**
Parent's Residence: Ashland C., Ohio

Page: 40
File Number: 755
Date of Death: 6 January 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **John Jr. Geib**
Age: 38y 9m 6d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Chester
Cause of Death: Heart Disease
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Residence: Chester
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **George Geib**
Mother: **Anna Geib**
Parent's Residence: Ohio

Page: 40
File Number: 756
Date of Death: 11 August 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Starr**
Age: 1d Sex: F Single
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Debility
Birthplace: Eaton, MI
Residence: Eaton
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Willard C. Starr**
Mother: **Elizabeth S. Starr**
Parent's Residence: Eaton

Page: 40
File Number: 757
Date of Death: Unknown 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Robert Hardcastle**
Age: 40y Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Tyfoid Fever
Birthplace: Canada
Residence: Eaton
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Unknown**
Mother: **Unknown**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 40
File Number: 758
Date of Death: 10 July 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Abraham J. Edgington**
Age: 2y 6m 5d Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Choaked
Birthplace: Eaton
Residence: Eaton
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **John Edgington**
Mother: **Naonie Edgington**
Parent's Residence: Eaton

Page: 41
File Number: 759
Date of Death: 15 Feb 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Emma J. Edgington**
Age: 1m 22d Sex: F Single
Place of Death: Eaton, Mich
Cause of Death: Croup
Birthplace: Eaton
Residence: Eaton
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **John Edgington**
Mother: **Naoni A. Edgington**
Parent's Residence: Eaton, MI

Eaton County Death Records

Page: 41
File Number: 760
Date of Death: 10 Dec 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Hester Perkins**
Age: 60y 2m Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Cancer of Liver
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Eaton
Occupation: Housekeeper
Parents:
Father: **Joseph J. Crawford**
Mother: **Maria Crawford**
Parent's Residence: NY

Page: 41
File Number: 761
Date of Death: 20 Jan 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Eunice Mann**
Age: 62y 4m 25d Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Scrofula
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Eaton
Occupation: Housekeeper
Parents:
Father: **David Clupp**
Mother: **Zatta Clupp**
Parent's Residence: NY

Page: 41
File Number: 762
Date of Death: 20 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Hiram Burts**
Age: 1m Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: sleep
Birthplace: Eaton, MI
Residence: Eaton
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Daniel Burts**
Mother: **Delia Burts**
Parent's Residence: Eaton

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File Number: 763
Date of Death: 27 Nov 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Tempa Shaver**
Age: 21y 11m 22d Sex: F Single
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Consumption
Birthplace: Ohio
Residence: Eaton
Occupation: Housekeeper
Parents:
Father: **William Shaver**
Mother: **Harriet A. Shaver**
Parent's Residence: Eaton

Page: 41
File Number: 764
Date of Death: 8 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Mary Bentley**
Age: 87y 4m 20d Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Eaton
Cause of Death: Dysentary
Birthplace: New York
Residence:
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Amos Covey**
Mother: **Sebel Covey**
Parent's Residence: NY

Page: 41
File Number: 765
Date of Death: 25 April 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Christian Stiefel**
Age: 60y 7m 16d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Dropsy
Birthplace: Germany
Residence: Windsor
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Christian Stiefel**
Mother: **Johanna Stiefel**
Parent's Residence:

Eaton County Death Records

Page: 41
File Number: 766
Date of Death: 16 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Albert R. Austin**
Age: 6m 2d Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Congestion of Brain
Birthplace: Windsor
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Edward Austin**
Mother: **Mary Jane Austin**
Parent's Residence: Windsor

Page: 41
File Number: 767
Date of Death: 15 March 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Elizabeth Moore**
Age: 33y Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Typhoid Fever
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **William Gardner**
Mother: **Jane Gardner**
Parent's Residence: Windsor

Page: 41
File Number: 768
Date of Death: 27 June 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **William Moore**
Age: 6y2m Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Typhoid Fever
Birthplace: Windsor
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Survetus Moore**
Mother: **Elizabeth Moore**
Parent's Residence: Windsor

Page: 41
File Number: 769
Date of Death: 16 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Asa Thompson**
Age: 67y11m28d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Paralysis
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Windsor
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Joshua Thompson**
Mother: **Lucy Thompson**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 41
File Number: 770
Date of Death: 12 Nov 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Thomas Maynard**
Age: 48y11m27d Sex: M Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Apoplexy
Birthplace: ?
Residence: Windsor
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Johnathan Maynard**
Mother: **Eunice Maynard**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 41
File Number: 771
Date of Death: 10 April 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **James K. Jones**
Age: 32y 3m 6d Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Consumption
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Windsor
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Unknown**
Mother: **Unknown**
Parent's Residence:

Eaton County Death Records

Page: 41
File Number: 772
Date of Death: 20 Feb 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Alfred W. Cook**
Age: 3d Sex: M Single
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Fits Infancy
Birthplace: Windsor
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Alfred A. Cook**
Mother: **Lidia S. Cook**
Parent's Residence: Windsor

Page: 41
File Number: 773
Date of Death: 25 Sept 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Alice Sloan**
Age: 5d Sex: F Single
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Debility Infancy
Birthplace: Windsor
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **Bradley Sloan**
Mother: **Louisa Sloan**
Parent's Residence: Windsor

Page: 41
File Number: 774
Date of Death: 20 Jan 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Auror Terry**
Age: 71y 5m 10d Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Debility Age
Birthplace: Vermont
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **? Churchbill**
Mother: **Unknown**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 41
File Number: 775
Date of Death: 17 March 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Charles Dowell**
Age: 74y 4m Sex: M Widowed
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Debility Age
Birthplace: Maryland
Residence: Windsor
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
Father: **Benjamin Dowell**
Mother: **Barbary Dowell**
Parent's Residence:

Page: 41
File Number: 776
Date of Death: 15 September 1871
Date Recorded: 31 May 1872
Name: **Mariah Wright**
Age: 24y Sex: F Married
Place of Death: Windsor
Cause of Death: Typhoid Fever
Birthplace: New York
Residence: Windsor
Occupation:
Parents:
Father: **William Nichols**
Mother: **Samantha Nichols**
Parent's Residence: New York

These death records were compiled by
Marcy Cousino from Volume I and Susan
Polhamus created the computer program
for printing. If you wish to have a certified
copy of a record, please contact the Eaton
County Clerk's Office, Independence Dr.,
Charlotte, MI 48813

City Directories as a Research Resource

Column published: 01 October 2006.

By: **Shirley Gage Hodges** *[Biography & Archived Articles](#)*

City directories are research tools that are especially helpful for family historians. They are superb genealogical research tools. If you have ever consulted city directories, you know how wonderful they are as resources for tracing a family's history. If you haven't used them, you are about to discover a gold mine.



A city directory is a book published about a city that includes the names and occupations of the residents, and a directory of all the businesses in that city. There are some places that still publish city directories, although it's certainly not as common as it used to be.

Directories were published annually from the mid-nineteenth to the mid-twentieth centuries. The city directory functioned as an earlier, comprehensive version of the telephone book of our time. Beyond providing an alphabetical listing of names, city directories typically noted an individual's occupation, work place, or business, and sometimes religion, race, and gender.

You may find some interesting genealogical information about your ancestors, and you might discover some clues to help in your research. The most important use of a city directory is to place your ancestor in a specific place at a single point in time. Census records can help you here every ten years, and some state censuses can help for that in-between period. Because city directories were published annually, they can be especially useful in locating ancestors, discovering facts about their lives, and finding leads to other genealogical records. The directories allow a researcher to follow a person every year, even as he or she moves about the city, and to trace kinfolk with the same surname. City directories can help you fill in the gaps. This is especially true in the critical period between 1880 and 1900 when the 1890 census was almost completely destroyed by fire.

Most directories listed heads of households, usually male, unless a widow replaced her husband. City directories also listed the members of a city's civic and religious organizations, clubs, and associations as well as the names of local public officials. With this information, the family historian can attempt to reconstruct the history of their ancestor and construct a time line. The information we get from this source can help us see how they fit into their social group, or neighborhood.

City Directories as a Research Resource

There are several types of information that we can find in directories:

- A street directory, used to locate the exact block for an address.
- A business directory that lists companies. These lists often include not only an organization's address, but also the names of its officers or chief employees.
- Advertisements for local products and services. These are wonderful if your ancestor happened to own a business in the area.
- Appendices that may include all types of information such as religious, educational, and charitable institutions, societies, clubs, banks, government offices, hospitals, cemeteries, asylums, orphanages, transportation schedules, and postal rates.

City directories can be very helpful in locating female ancestors. Finding female ancestors in census indexes is almost impossible, unless the woman was a head of household. City directories often include listings for women who owned their own businesses, as well as women who were widows and heads of households.

The information gotten from the city directory can lead you to many other sources. If a family lived at the same address for several years, they may have owned the property. You can use the address from city directories to search real-estate records for Land Records and other documents which can contain information about family relationships, death dates, addresses, occupations, financial details, and more.

If you haven't been using city or county directories in your research I hope you will consider using these wonderful resources.

Suggested Web pages:

- [City Directories of the United States](#)
- [Getty Thesaurus of Geographic Names](#)

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To read back issues of Shirley Hodges' articles, visit her [biography & archived Articles](#)

City Directories as a Research Resource

Suggested reading:

- **BOOK - Directory of the County of Hastings 1879 - 1880 (Hastings County, Ontario, Canada)** The book is organized by municipality / township, with each householder and business recorded alphabetically by surname or business name. There are descriptive sketches of each municipality before the listing of the persons in the place. Some of the sketches are lengthy.
- **BOOK - Montreal Directory 1868-1869** By John Lovell. The John Lovell directory of the city of Montreal for the years of 1868 to 1869 contains an alphabetical listing of the citizens of the city and a street directory. It also includes subscribers and advertisers classified business directories and a miscellaneous directory.
- **BOOK - County of Simcoe Gazetteer and Directory 1872-1873 (Simcoe County, Ontario, Canada)** By W. H. Irwin. The book is organized by municipality/township, with each householder and business recorded alphabetically by surname or business name. There is a short descriptive sketch of each municipality before the listing of the persons in the place.

Source: printed with permission from Shirley Hodges and Global Gazette.

W. M. Beekman

W. M. Beekman, who was the popular and efficient postmaster at Charlotte, has been prominent in the political and general public affairs of the county. He held numerous offices of trust and having ever stood for loyal and valuable citizenship. He is a native of Eaton County and a member of one of its well known pioneer families.

Mr. Beekman was born on the homestead farm, in Chester Township on January 2, 1843. He was the son of **Martin and Mary V. (Minor) Beekman**, both of whom were born in New Jersey, while their marriage was solemnized in Seneca county, New York, to which locality the maternal grandparents removed when **Mrs. Beckman** was a child of seven years, her husband having been twenty-five years of age at the time of taking up his residence there, and having continued to make his home in Seneca county about five years. In the meanwhile, as early as the autumn of 1837, **Martin Beekman** had come to Michigan and taken up a tract of government land in Chester Township where he remained until 1840. He returned to Seneca County where he married on April 25th of that year. With his bride, they returned to Michigan and settled on their farm where he had built a log cabin and had made other slight improvements..

Mr. Beekman reclaimed a good farm from the virgin forest and was one of the sterling pioneer citizens and influential men of the county. He and his wife continued to live on the farm until their death. **W. M. Beekman, Martin and Mary's** son, was reared to the strenuous discipline of the pioneer farm, and in such connection has contributed his full quota to the development of the agricultural resources of his native county, since he has individually been concerned in the reclaiming of more than two hundred acres of land, having been adept in wielding the ax and in the various other labors which fell to the lot of those who thus ushered in the advancing column of development and progress. He was afforded the advantages of the district schools, which he attended principally during the winter months and he remained engaged in farm work until shortly before the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion, when he entered upon an apprenticeship at the carpenter trade, serving about three months, under the direction of **Sackett Noble**.

With the inception of the war he heeded the call of higher duty, tendering his services in defense of the integrity of the Union. In August of 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company B, Second Michigan Volunteer Cavalry, with which he continued on active duty until the close of the war, having taken part in many important engagements and having made a record which stands creditable alike to him and to the county and state from which he went forth. He received his honorable discharge August 17, 1865, at Macon, Georgia. Though never wounded while in the service, **Mr. Beekman** had a number of narrow escapes, having had two horses shot from under him while in action, while on another occasion he was slightly disabled by a horse falling upon him.

After the close of the war, **Mr. Beekman** returned to Eaton County, where he engaged in farming on his own account, locating in Roxana Township, near the village of Maxon's Corners, and becoming one of the substantial farmers and stock-growers of that section of the county, while the same liberal views and ability which have ever characterized him soon led his fellow citizens to designate him for public office. He served two years as supervisor of the township mentioned, and he continued his residence on the farm until the autumn of 1886 when he was nominated as the

W. M. Beekman

Republican candidate for the office of register of deeds of the county. He was elected by a gratifying majority and continuing incumbent of the office until 1890. In 1893 he was elected to represent Charlotte city as a member of the county board of supervisors, being re-elected in 1894 and again in 1895. The city was then divided into two districts, and he was re-elected to represent the first district. In February 1898, **Mr. Beekman** received from **President McKinley** the appointment of postmaster at Charlotte, and he has since continued to serve in this capacity, having been re-appointed by **President Roosevelt**, and having given an administration of most satisfactory order, amply justifying the unqualified popular endorsement which he received at the time when he became a candidate for the appointment.

He has ever been an unswerving adherent of the Republican party, and in a local way has contributed materially to the furtherance of its cause. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Sunfield, this county, is identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic fraternity, in which last he has taken the chivalric degrees, being affiliated with the commandery of Knights Templar in Charlotte, while he is also a noble of the Mystic Shrine.

Mr. Beekman has done much to perfect the service of the local post office, which is a second-class office, and from which twelve rural free-delivery routes are supplied and controlled.



Mr. Beekman was united in marriage to **Miss Christina Pugh**, daughter of **David Pugh**, of Chester Township, where he took up his residence in 1854, there passing the remainder of his life. **Mrs. Beekman** passed to the life eternal February 12, 1896, being survived by the elder of her two children, Mary B., who is now the wife of **William C. Markham**, of Charlotte. **Martin H.**, the only son, died on March 22, 1889 at the age of fourteen years.

Source: Past and Present of Eaton County, pgs. 184 – 187 Book is located in the ECGS Resource Room, abstracted by Vicki L Dukes

Online Historical Maps

Looking for a pre-1700 map of the Americas as the Europeans found it? Old maps can point you in your ancestors' direction. Learn more about the history of cartography at: www.maphistory.info

Here are more places to look:

www.icweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmd.html

US emphasis from the 1500s to present

www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/mapsvIEWS

Emphasis on Great Britain from the 800s to 1800s

www.libs.uga.edu/darchie/hargrett/maps/maps.html

United States with emphasis on Georgia and surrounding area 1500s to 1900s

www.sbdspiro.nla.gov.au/sbdp-ui/island/map

Main emphasis is on Australia but some US from 1000 to present

www.lib.utexas.edu/maps

About half of the US from 1810 to present

www.davidrumsey.com/collections/cartography.html

Worldwide with focus on the Americas dating from 1800s to 1900s

Uncle Sam Did His Best

Use your imagination when pondering what government agencies might have records about your ancestors. In general, the FOIA applies to agencies of the executive branch of government – from the Social Security Administration to the Department of Labor. Enacted in 1966 and was revised in 1996, it gives citizens access to government documents of all sorts. Most requests require that either the person whose record it is was born more than 100 years ago or that you provide proof of death.

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Even if your ancestor stayed on the right side of the law, he or she might have an FBI file. Beginning in 1908, the FBI kept files on millions of Americans, many of whom did nothing wrong except disagree with the government.

You can use the FOIA to request a “main file search” for an investigative FBI file about an individual. Be sure to ask for a search of manual card records, because “Security files” are computerized only back to 1958 and criminal files to 1973.

You must provide proof of death in the form of an obituary or SSDI page. Also include complete name, date and place of birth, SSN and any other identifying data, along with your upper limit in copying fees. For full instructions go to:

<Foia.fbi.gov/foia_instruc.htm> or mail to:

Federal Bureau of Investigation, Record Information, Dissemination Section, 170 Marcel Drive, Winchester, VA 22602

Federal Bureau of Prisons

If your ancestor was convicted of a federal crime, the records are open to the public. Federal prison records are at NARA's regional offices with jurisdiction over the area where the prison was; some are indexed online at: archives.gov/research/prisons.htm

For inmates released prior to 1982 write to:

Federal Bureau of Prisons, Office of Communications and Archives, Attn: Historic Inmate Locator Request, 320 First St. NW, Washington DC 20534

Source: Family Tree Magazine, Under Surveillance, David A Fryxell, issue: November 2009, pgs 51 – 55.

Charles W Beers

Charles W. Beers has been a resident of Eaton County for forty years and is now living semi-retired on his pleasant little homestead just south of the village of Bellevue. He is a veteran of the Civil War and is a citizen who has received the high esteem of those with whom he has come in contact in the varied relations of life.

Mr. Beers was born in Cayuga County, New York June 14, 1831, and is the son of **John and Eliza (Leverich) Beers**. His father was born Oswego County, New York April 13, 1807 and his mother was born Onondaga County, New York September 26, 1811. Both passed the closing years of their lives in the village of Bellevue, having been numbered among the pioneers of Eaton County. (The father at the age of 70 years and the mother at the age of 84)

John Beers was the owner of a farm in New York, and he there continued to live until 1853, after selling his land he came to Eaton County in January of that year. He purchased one hundred and twenty acres of land in Bellevue Township, the tract having been partially reclaimed and a small frame house and log barn having been built on the place. He cleared the farm, erected a good house and barn and resided there until two years prior to his death, when he and his wife removed to the village of Bellevue, where they passed the remainder of their lives, his death having occurred in 1884. He was a staunch supporter of the principles of the Republican Party, and both he and his wife were zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he served as class-leader for many years. They became the parents of nine children, all of whom attained maturity except one, who died in infancy. **Charles W.**, of this sketch, is the eldest; **Wesley** is a resident of Cooperville, Ottawa County, MI; **Mary**, who died in Montcalm County, MI was the wife of **Solomon Rapp**, and their four children reside in the city of South Bend, Indiana; **Josiah** enlisted in Company E, Sixth Michigan Volunteer Infantry in 1861 and died in a Confederate prison in 1863 (presumably in Andersonville); **Eliza Ann** was the wife of **Richard Austin**, of Calhoun County and is survived by one child; **Charlotte** is the wife of **David Sweet** of Nashville, Barry County; **Jeanette** who died in 1876 was the wife of **William Farlin** of Bellevue Township; and **George** who married **Emma Crampton** and resided in Bellevue Township was killed in the lumber woods in 1870, his widow and their only child also being deceased.

Charles W Beers, the immediate subject of this sketch, was reared on the old homestead farm, in New York State. There he received a common-school education. In 1851 he came to Eaton County, working on a farm in Bellevue Township one summer and then returning to New York where he was shortly afterward married. He then engaged in farming in Oswego County and doing a butchering business and operating a met wagon in the farming community in which he lived. Very successful in his efforts.

In May 1862, responding to **President Lincoln's** second call for volunteers he enlisted in Company D, One Hundred & Forty-seventh New York Infantry. He served three years or until the close of the war. He was assigned to detail service and never took part in any battles. He passed two weeks in the hospital at Belle Plains, VA where he witnessed the death of several hundred soldiers. At the battle of Gettysburg and in the engagement at Seminary Hill he was on duty as driver of a forge wagon. He was with his command within twelve miles of Appomattox at the time of **Lee's** surrender. At the

Charles W Beers

time of enlistment his regiment was twenty-seven hundred strong, and of this large number of men only one hundred and forty seven lived to return home.

Mr. Beers left his wife and four small children to go forth in his country's service and he made a record of which he may be proud, having done the duty assigned him and having seen his full share of horrors and hardships of war, even though he was not a participant in the great battles waged about him. After the war he returned to his home in New York.

His parents had removed to Eaton County, MI in 1853 and they expressed an earnest desire that he should also bring his family here. He sold his property in New York and arrived in Eaton County in August 1865. He purchased forty acres of his father's old homestead and a tract of one hundred and twenty acres on the opposite side of the road. He erected a good frame house and barns, set out a large orchard and improved his land. He continued to reside there until 1877 when he moved to the village of Bellevue. He opened a meat market and continued business until 1901 upon retirement. South of the village he bought a small piece of land and raised some crops.

He has been identified with the Republican Party from the time of its organization, is affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Both he and his wife are zealous members of the Methodist Episcopal Church which they joined in their youthful days.

Mr. and Mrs. Beers



Charles W Beers

April 7, 1852, **Mr. Beers** was united in marriage to **Miss Sarah A. Peckham**, who was born in Hannibal, Oswego County, New York on May 2, 1830. She was the daughter of **David and Polly (Potter) Peckham**, the former of whom was born in Connecticut September 9, 1800 and died in New York in July 1877; the later was born in Connecticut on March 28, 1797 and died at Hannibal New York December 27, 1858. **David Peckham** was a wealthy farmer of Oswego County where he had a large land estate. His wife's family traced their genealogy back to the year 1616 early founding in America. Of the seven children in the **Peckham** family, **Mrs. Beers** is now the only survivor. **Benjamin**, who died in New Orleans in February, 1903 had remained on the old homestead in New York for many years. He cared for his father during his declining years. **Amos** was a farmer of New York; **Lucy** was the wife of **James Kipp**; **Isaac** was Captain of Company E, One Hundred and Tenth New York Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War died in New York in 1897; **Mrs. Beers** was next in order; **Martha** was the wife of **Carson Wiltse** and died in New York; **Emma** died in 1898 in Louisiana and was the wife of **William Stevenson**.

To **Mr. and Mrs Beers** were born five children, all of whom are living. **Ordelia**, who was born November 15, 1853 is the wife of **Charles Shaw**. **Charles** is a prosperous farmer of Sanilac County, MI. They have four children: **Alta, Sarah, Claude and Roy. Adelbert**, who lives in Bellevue, married **Miss Nettie Wilson**. They have two children: **Wayne and Emma V. Francina**, was born July 12, 1859 is married to **Howard Foster**, a farmer in Sanilac County. (no children) **Charles E.** lives in Bellevue and is the township supervisor. He was born November 9, 1861. **Charles** married **Miss Matilda Hamilton** and they have no children. **Clinton J**, born September 11, 1867 has a general store and is postmaster in Lamott Township, Sanilac County. He married **Miss Edna Luscomb**. They have four children: **Rodney, Lynn, Clare and Vaughn**.

Source: Past and Present of Eaton County, pages 187 – 191, book located in the ECGS resource room. Abstracted by Vicki L Dukes

Charlotte A Half Century Ago

By LJR

Fowler's Chev Olds dealership was located at the corner of Lawrence and Washington Streets where the fire station presently is now. The owners were **Rice and son, Lynn Fowler**. It had been a family owned business for many years. They had survived the Great Depression. I think that their Tough but Honest dealing was tempered by those years of hard times.

The hard times during the Great Depression fostered a story that **Rice** used to tell. There was a fellow on north Washington Street that was dealing in old rags and paper. He asked the Fowlers if they would let him take an old car to junk out and he would pay them later. **Rice** would relate, "We were not making any sales to speak of and we did have some old cars on the back lot, so we tried his idea." Within a few days he was back with the full price and asked to repeat that deal. "We did and did it repeatedly!" was **Mr. Fowler's** answer. **Rice** added, "We like to think that we were responsible for **Mr. Abe Morrison's** success with the business, Charlotte Auto Parts." For many years a popular place to buy new and used auto and truck parts. Presently (2009) there is a body shop and recycle center at that location.

Service manager for Fowler's was **Lyman Vaughn** and later **Gerry Summers**. Parts Manager was **Doug Smith**. Mechanics were: **Val Bectal** who worked the grease and oil change bay; **Cy Porter** was the wrecker operator and heavy truck repairman; **Jr. Redfield** ran the engine machine shop and auto repair; **Del Redfield** worked auto repair; **Tom Kerns** was a Chevy Power-Glyde Automatic transmission repair; **Scott Dewey** a new car preparation; **Tony Papoi** GM Hydramatic transmission repair and myself, **Larry Randall** a front end repair and alinement. These were an excellent group to work with.

In July 1959 when I returned from four years in the US Army in France, I went to work for the **Fowler's**. At that time our household items had not yet arrived from overseas; I was without my mechanic tools. I scrounged what tools I could from my dad and others around to get by with. The Fowler's were aware of that so there was no big problem. Their mechanics took me in and made sure I had the necessary tools the first couple weeks.

A separate business was Fowler Farm Store. It was located just north of the auto dealership. They were the Oliver Tractor headquarters for miles around. Later they added the Tractor Supply line.

Every effort has been made to tell this tale exactly as it happened, however, it is from memory and is subject to errors.

The **Fowlers** were early settlers to Eaton County. From the records, we find that Benjamin J Fowler was born in Eaton Rapids, MI in 1874 to **William and Harriet (Nichols) Fowler**. On November 24, 1897 he married **Rose M Rice**. Their children were **Rice E., Lester A. and Hilda M Fowler**.

Index to Record of Wills

Volume #123

ECGS Call No. 606.2

This index list covering the years 1941 – 1944 was originally abstracted by Drosella Halsey. She began to reproduce it in the Quest. I found the list starting with Fowler in Issue 60 and continued the list in issues 63 and 66. This will finish the index list.

You may write to the Eaton County Genealogical Society for copies of these records. Please include a SASE and contact information (either phone number or email) so you can be contacted for the cost of copying.

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71st Sheldon Family Association

August 5 – 8th, 2010

Holiday Inn, Grand Rapids, MI

This will be the annual gathering for genealogy and friendship of those researching Sheldons or is descended from Sheldons. All are welcome. They selected Michigan for the first time to hold their annual gathering. Contact website for further information: sheldonfamily.org

The Slout Tent Shows

By

Mary Jean Baker

L. Verne Slout was the owner of Michigan's only tent show. His character "**Toby**", whose red wig and antics endeared him to a generation of theater-goers, played his last show at the old Opera House in Vermontville in 1955.

The old Opera House was built the year **Slout** was born, in 1893. It was once the scene of almost constant activity when **Verne** and vaudeville were in their prime.

When **Slout** died at age 61, he had been an actor since 1915 when he began working in troupes around the country. In 1921 he returned to Vermontville, his home town, to stage his first show.

He was always to his fans the unpredictable, red-headed **Toby**, whose act was interrupted for asides to the audience, greetings to late comers and sudden comments about his own lines.

It was corny, **Verne** always maintained, but his audience loved it and he gave them what they wanted.

Verne's wife, the former **Ora Ackley**, joined the **Slout** troupe in 1936 after spending several years with musical comedies in the west. She had been prima donna of "The Sweetheart Company": and had done radio work. When not playing opposite her husband, she doubled as show designer and advertising manager.

Her interest in antiques probably prompted her husband to decide to spend his later years planning antique shows.

Verne first broke into the circuits with the **Lillian Lyons Company** of Muir in the days when a trunk was a must. He answered an ad for actors, got an appointment, but was a disappointment to his interviewer when he appeared without the trunk (traditionally loaded with costumes for any type of act).

Some fast talking finally landed him the job; but not until he promised to purchase a dress suit. He stopped at a pawn shop in Grand Rapids to purchase the suit. Five dollars was an awful lot to pay for a suit. **Verne** said he decided the three pieces weren't essential and settled for the coat and vest for \$2.50. The pair of dark blue trousers he had on would serve to complete the ensemble. His brown shoes, instead of black convention footwear, would suffice. They wouldn't show much on the stage at night, anyway. His career was launched.

In World War I, he spent 15 months overseas – a year in Russia entertaining troops there. On returning, he continued his stage work.

The next 30 years brought him and his tent shows to the 48 states where he continued to develop the character of **Toby**, the rural yokel, with red hair. His character became so beloved that when the **Slout** troupe presented such old time Broadway attractions as

The Slout Tent Shows

"Twin Beds," or "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath," with the Toby character missing, the audience seemed to resent his absence.

Mr. Slout graduated from Vermontville high school in 1912, and after working a summer with a circuit entered Albion College, using his summer vacations to keep his acts in shape. Never for one minute did he intend to forsake the stage.

Eaton County Death Record

Vol. J, page 988 – L. Verne Slout

Died at Vermontville, Eaton County, Michigan at 250 S. Main Street

Born: Nov. 1, 1893 at Vermontville

Died: April 12, 1955 of heart attack. Married, age 61.

Actor playwright, Slout Tent Show

Parents: **William P. Slout & May L. Hall**

Military – World War I

Services at Vermontville Methodist Church

Burial Kalamo Cemetery

Surviving besides the widow and son **William** was a daughter, **Mrs. William Grube** of Detroit and mother, **Mrs. William Slout** of Vermontville and three grandchildren.

Source: Material found by Mary Jane Baker in the Lansing State Journal, April 13, 1955.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Provided by
Shirley Hodges

[Editor's Note: Occasionally the references are vague or use only initials. We have included these because sometimes these little "snip-its" are the only clues we get about people. Information on people who have married into the Williams families is also included.]

Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 3 April 1858.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 1 April 1858. Among those listed: **John B. Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 20 March 1858.

List of claims submitted to the Eaton County Board of Supervisors at the October 1857 and January 1858 sessions. Among those submitting fees for Coroner's Jury: **Ancil Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 3 July 1858.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 1 July. Among those listed: **Alva Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 5 March 1859.

Annual Report of the Board of Supervisors for 1858. Among Claims Presented -

For Witness in Justice Court	-	Peter Williams.
For Justice of Peace	-	A. R. Williams



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 12 March 1859.

Married. In Alden, Erie Co., New York. 6 March, at the residence of the bride's grandfather, **John H. Ray to Miss Mary F. Williams**, both of Charlotte.



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 16 July 1859.

A list of Deeds and Mortgages by the Eaton County Register's Office which are unrecorded because of non-payment of fees, etc. Among those listed:

Deeds

Grantors
Auditor General
Harvey Williams

Grantees
Harvey Williams
Simeon Harding

Mortgages

Mortgagers
George W. Williams

Mortgagees
R. W. Lyon



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 24 September 1859.

Included in a listing of members of the Teacher's Institute of Charlotte, MI: **Albert Williams, Daniel Williams and Egbert Williams**. They were all from Charlotte.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 8 October 1859.

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Qualified Voters of Fractional School District #1 of Carmel and No. 2 Eaton, held at East School House on 26 September. Elected to one year term: **Wolcott B. Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 22 October 1859.

Proceedings of the Eaton County Circuit Court, October term. Listed among Petit Jurors: **Ancil Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 11 May 1860.

Chancery Sale. - **John D. Loomis and Philetus Nyman vs. John S. and Sarah E. Williams, John C. Spencer and Samuel and Harriet A. Martin**.



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 25 May 1860.

Sheriff's Sale - Against **David and Thomas Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 3 August 1860.

Article on Meeting of Ladies Banner Association 1 August. Listed among committee members to receive suggestions as to style/design of the banner - **Mrs. A. R. Williams**.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 28 September 1860.

Married. In Vermontville, 21 September, at the residence of **Rufus Haner**, by **E. O. Smith, Esq., Mr. Chas. Lake and Miss Mary L. Williams**, of Vermontville.



Source: *EATON COUNTY REPUBLICAN*. 21 Feb. 1862.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 15 February. Among those listed: **Jefferson Williams**.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 25 April 1862.

Taken from a soldiers letter. [Might have been **L. O. Smith?**] Extracted from those killed or wounded in action: **Geo. W. Gates**, of Grand Ledge, received a flesh wound to the leg and is doing well.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 2 May 1862.

Married. 30 April at the American Hotel, by **Calvin Clark, Esq., Thos. W. B. Williams and Amanda Winsor**, all of Brookfield.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 12 September 1862.


A letter from Lieut H. H. Hatch. They arrived at Detroit on 9 September. Among those listed who mustered in the morning of 10 September: **Morris B. Williams**.



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers


Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 16 October 1862.

Proceedings of the Republican Senatorial Convention held 13 October in Vermontville.
Committee on Credentials - **Milo Williams**.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 12 February 1863.

Proceedings of the Republican County Convention held 7 February in Charlotte. Listed as
Delegate to Dist. Judicial Convention: **Harvey Williams**.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 19 February 1863.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 15 February. Among those listed: **Peter Williams**.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 23 April 1863.

Proceedings of the Eaton County Circuit Court, April Session. Listed among cases to be
heard: **Ancil Williams vs. Catherine Russell, et. al.**




Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 21 May 1863.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 15 May. Among those listed: **Ema C. Williams**.




Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 23 July 1863.

Married. 22 June, in Charlotte at residence of the bride's mother by **Rev. Stephen Hull, Mr. Egbert G. Williams and Miss Elvira Titus**, both of Charlotte.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 1 October 1863.

Married. 22 September in Fremont, Ohio, by **Rev. H. Lang, Mr. Albert T. Williams of Charlotte and Miss Catherine E. Fisher** of Freemont.



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 8 October 1863.

Article covering highlights of the Fair giving a list of premiums awarded in various categories.
Among those listed:

Cattle - **W. B. Williams**

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 21 January 1864.

Thank you card from **W. B. Williams and wife Charlotte**. Thanks for the \$80 donation.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 31 March 1864.

Egbert G. Williams will offer his house, furniture, garden implements, etc. at auction this Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 14 April 1864.

Married. 1 April in Charlotte, by **Rev. E. Whitcomb, Morris B. Williams and Annaliza Grant**, all of Chester.

Married. 9 April in Charlotte, at the residence of **Harvey Williams**, by **Rev. Henry Robinson, Mr. Gottlieb Beiswanger** of Blue Mounds, Wisc. and **Miss Christina Dreifenbacker**, of Charlotte.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 25 Aug. 1864.

List of Judges for an upcoming 10th Annual Eaton County Agricultural Fair. Vegetables: **George Williams**.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 1 September 1864.

Married. 18 August at residence of **E. Hunnewill at Owatonna, Minn** by **Rev. D. S. Dean, Daniel Williams** of Garden City, Minn. and **Louisa A. Miller** of Ripon, Wisc.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 24 Nov. 1864.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 23 November. Among those listed: **John Williams**.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 8 December 1864.

Eaton County Board of Supervisors Proceedings. Among Supervisors present: **Peter Williams** of Brookfield.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 12 January 1865.

Proceedings of the Eaton county Board of Supervisors, 2-5 January 1865. Among the claims presented:

1. Service as Justice - **Peter Williams**.
2. Supervisor - **P. Williams**.
3. Sheriff - **A. R. Williams**

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 16 March 1865.

Among those listed for Commissions of Notary Public: **Egbert G. Williams**.

Source: *Charlotte Argus*. 30 May 1865.

Levi Dunlap, at work last Saturday in one of Eaton Rapids' Saw Mills, had his hand nearly cut off.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 24 Aug. 1865.

Order of Publication. **Abraham H. Baird vs. Alexander Bowman, Peter Williams and Wm. R. Wilcox**. **Bowman** is a resident of New York.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 31 August 1865.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 30 August. Among those listed: **W. Williams**.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 31 August 1865

List of Petit Jurors for October term of Circuit Court. Carmel - **Henry Williams**.

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 2 November 1865.

Information from Olivet News section. A re-dedication of the newly refitted and rebuilt College Church took place on 26 October. ...**Rev. W. B. Williams** got up and asked the congregation to help the Church with their debt of \$1,800. He himself gave \$50 he had been saving to buy his wife a new carpet. When finished, \$2,150 was pledged. Later, college students came to **Mr. Williams** with \$116 to buy his wife's carpet.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 2 November 1865.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office 2 November. Among those listed: **Mary J. Williams, Mr. F. Williams.**



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 23 November 1865.

List of Petit Jurors in the December term of Circuit Court. Vermontville: **John Williams.**



Source: *THE REPUBLICAN*. 21 December 1865.

J. C. Harmon has sold his 454 acre farm to **John D. Williams** of Lorain Co., Ohio for \$11,350. He had previously sold Williams 80 acres of that same farm for \$1,200.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 3 January 1867.

Married. 24 December at the residence of the bride's father, by **Rev. E. Whitcomb, Mr. Charles R. Pritten and Miss Amelia L. Williams**, all of Chester.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 24 January 1867.

List of claims submitted to the Eaton County Board of Supervisors at the June 1886 and January 1867 sessions. Witness in Justice Court - **Nancy Williams.**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 April 1867.

There will be an auction sale of household furniture, etc. at the residence of **Mrs. Harvey Williams**, tomorrow.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 25 April 1867.

The four year old son of **Mr. Hiram Williams** of Windsor broke his right thigh on 16 April when he fell off a log he was playing on.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 27 June 1867.

Proceedings of the June Session of Eaton County Circuit Court. Among cases listed: **Thos. Williams vs. Dr. Roswell R. Palmer.**



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 27 June 1867.

Died. At Stockbridge, Michigan, at 1:30 a.m. on 22 June, **Mr. Orton Williams**. One of Chester Township's first settlers, coming here in 1837 and with his brother **Harvey Williams**, helped organize the town and county. He moved from Chester to Stockbridge about 1843 and was engaged in various occupations until 1848 when he settled upon the farm when he spent the remainder of his days.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 July 1867.

Listed among cases heard at June Session of Eaton County Circuit Court: **Edw. Spears and Alonzo R. Williams**.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 December 1867.

Information taken from "Vermontville News Items". **Mr. Williams** died very suddenly, Saturday 13 December at the residence of his son, **John B. Williams**. He retired in good health Friday night and was found the next morning in a helpless and insensible condition and died about 9 a.m. He was about 70 years old and was a victim of paralysis for several years, which was the cause of his death.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 12 February 1868.

Vermontville news. An accident occurred at the Steam Mill of Bodine & Martin, whereby **Daniel Hildreth**, one of the workmen, had his hand badly cut by a circular saw.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 5 May 1868.

Eaton County court proceedings. Among the cases listed: **Thos. Williams vs. Roswell R. Palmer**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 25 May 1868.

Ad. For sale, 18 inch wood, by **B. J. Grier**, on Chilson Street, one lot south of **Harvey Williams'** old homestead.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 24 June 1868.

Olivet Commencement Exercises. Listed among those who gave sermons, orations and addresses was: **Mary E. Williams (Galesburgh)**.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 1 July 1868.

Proceedings of the Republican County Convention, held 26 June, in Charlotte. Each township selected a person to act in concert with the central committee. Among those listed: **Peter Williams** (Brookfield).

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 8 July 1868.

Married. By **Rev. B. F. Bradford**, in Charlotte, 28 June, **Mr. B. F. Roberts** and **Miss Nannie I. Williams**, both of Carmel.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 26 August 1868.

Rev. W. B. Williams has platted his land into lots and recorded it as an addition to the village.

Source: *Charlotte Republican*. 26 August 1868.

The Republicans of Brookfield Township met at the Williams School House Thursday p.m. and formed a Grant & Colfax Club. **Peter Williams** was elected as Treasurer.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 2 September 1868.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office for September. Among those listed: **Hannah Williams**.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 9 September 1868.

List of Judges, for the 14th Annual Eaton Co. Agricultural Fair, to be held at the Grounds at Charlotte, Sept. 30 - Oct. 1.

Vegetables - **Geo. E. Williams**

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 30 September 1868.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office for September. Among those listed: **J. C. Williams; Lama M. Williams; Wm. Williams**.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 November 1868.

Married. At the residence of O. A. Morse of Eaton, 11 November by **Rev. D. Burns, Chas. E. Williams of Carmel and Miss Nettie L. Morse** of Eaton.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 November 1868.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office. Among those listed: **John D. Williams, Eliza Williams.**



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 15 January 1869.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office. Among those listed: **Jane Williams, Jas. H. Williams, Derby Williams.**



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 22 January 1869.

List of claims allowed at the October 1868 session of the Eaton County Board of Supervisors. Service as witness: **Dr. David Williams.**



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 5 March 1869.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office. Among those listed: **Nancy Williams.**



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 18 June 1869.

The portable saw mill, owned by **Mr. Isaac C. Williams** in Chester, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday night. Loss \$500-\$600.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 13 Aug. 1869.

Married. In Charlotte, 11 August by **Rev. Henry Robinson, Mr. George P. Williams of Adrian and Miss Martha Vanaken** of Charlotte.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 5 November 1869.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office for October. Among those listed: **Bratten Williams.**



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 5 November 1869.

Married. In Charlotte, 25 October, by **F. A. Hooker, Esq.** **John Lemon of Delta** and **Miss Harriet Augusta Williams** of Windsor.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 3 September 1869.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office. Among those listed: **Jim Williams**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 1 October 1869.

Eaton Co. Circuit Court commenced Tuesday. Among the cases listed: **People vs. Chas. Williams**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 22 October 1869.

List of Premium winners, at the 15th Annual Eaton Co. Agricultural Fair, held at Charlotte. Fancy articles: **Miss Edith Williams**; Fruit: **W. B. Williams**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 21 January 1870.

Married. By Rev. B. F. Bradford, in Charlotte, 16 January **George Williams, Esq.**, of Washington, D.C. and **Miss Mary Scott** of Nashville, Tennessee.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 1 April 1870.

List of pupils names who were reported by their teachers as being entitled to be listed on a "Card of Honor" and placed in the "Roll of Honor". Among those listed: **Henry Williams**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 5 August 1870.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office for July. Among those listed: **Mrs. Louisa Williams**; **Chas. Williams**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 12 Aug. 1870.

Died. **Bertie Williams**, only child of **Chas. E. and Nettie L. Williams**, died 5 Aug., age 5 m., 18 d. old.



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 14 October 1870.

Circuit Court case held term commencing 4 October. Among those listed: **Henrietta Gordon vs. Geo. S. Gordon**.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 16 Dec. 1870.

Died. In Charlotte, 10 December, **Thomas Hitt**, age. 62. He was born in Rutland Co., Vermont on 23 Sept. 1808. A few years previous to his settlement in Michigan, he resided in Washington Co., New York. He came to Eaton Co. about 1845, making his home for several years with **Harvey Williams**. For the last 9 years he has lived with **A. L. Baker**, at whose residence he died. He was well known in this area as a land owner and general deal. [Note: a little more detail was given.]



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 6 May 1870.

List of Letters in the Charlotte Post Office for April. Among those listed: **John D. Williams**.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 2 Feb. 1872.

Real Estate sales. Among those listed: **Isaac M. Crane to George M. Williams; Isaac Crane to Thomas Williams**.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 9 Feb. 1872.

Real Estate Sales. Among those listed: **Robert B. Montgomery to Elbridge Williams**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 3 May 1872.

Real Estate Sales. **David Williams to Ann E. Burk**.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 12 April 1872.

Mr. A. R. Williams is moving into the building now being vacated by **E. & J. Shepherd**.



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 19 April 1872.

A. R. Williams will soon move his stock of goods to the building recently occupied by Shepherd's bank.



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 19 April 1872.

Real Estate Sales. Among those listed: **Edmund Lamson to Warren S. Williams.**




Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 10 May 1872.

Real Estate Sales. **Warren S. Williams to Edgar F. Benjamin.**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 16 August 1872.

A Grant & Wilson Club & a Tanner's Club were formed at Potter's Hall (Potterville) on 14 August. Among those mentioned: **Mart. H. Williams.**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 16 August 1872.

List of Jurors for the December Term of the Eaton County Circuit Court. **Peter Williams** (Brookfield).



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 20 Sept. 1872.


Real Estate sales. Among those listed: **Harvey VanVleet to Oscar F. Williams.**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 27 Sept. 1872.



Order of Publication. **Merritt Woodruff vs. Solon P. & Luna V. Spafford, Aras G. Williams, Granville Whittiesey, Lorell W. Harris & Rodney C. Ward.** (Williams, Whittiesey, Harris and Ward are all residents of New York.)



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 4 October 1872.

Resolutions published in appreciation of **Professor Hubbard** concerning his voice class were published. Among those signing: **Edith Williams and Sarah Williams.**



Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 4 October 1872.

A list of premiums awarded at the 18th Annual Fair of the Eaton County Agricultural Society. Among those listed: Horses - **George Williams**; Cattle - **James A. Williams.**



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *THE CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 15 Nov. 1872.

Professor Hubbard's Singing Class performed at Sampson Hall Wednesday night. The voice of **Miss Edith Williams** was introduced for the first time to the public.



Source: *THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER*. 14 March 1873.

Real Estate Sales. Among those listed: **Betsey A. Williams to Sarah E. Nichols; Sarah E. Nichols to Daniel G. Williams.**




Source: *THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER*. 20 March 1873.

Real state Sales. Among those listed: **Mattie A. Lampman to Annie Williams.**




Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 23 January 1874.

Mortgage Sale - **Isaac M. Jameston to Mat H. Williams and Wm. C. Niles.** Assigned by **Williams and Niles to Geo. N. Potter.**




Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 30 January 1874.

Circuit Court Proceedings. Among the cases listed: **Hamilton S. Williams vs. Roswell R. Maxon.**




Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 6 February 1874

Listed under "County News". A Grange was organized in Brookfield. Listed among officers: **Peter Williams.**



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 6 February 1874.

Died. In Charlotte, Sunday evening, 1 February, of Consumption, **Mr. Samuel Cooper Sherwood**, age 53 years. He was born in Lodi, Seneca Co., New York, in 1820, the 3rd of 9 children, of which only a brother and sister survive. The family moved to Plymouth, Huron Co., Ohio when he was 12, where his father died 5 years later. His brother, **George**, came to Charlotte in 1848, and **Cooper** came in 1857, bringing his mother and youngest sister, **Abby**, and **Deroy Williams**, a lad they had brought up. Abby died of Consumption in 1858. Last August, **Deroy Williams** died in Nebraska of Consumption and a few weeks later **Old Mrs. Sherwood** died. [More detail is given.]



Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 13 February 1874.

Mrs. M J. Williams is secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of Charlotte Congregation Church.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 20 Feb. 1874.

Eaton County Real Estate Sales. Among those listed: **Geo. M. Williams to Esther Williams**.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 6 March 1874.

Eaton County Real Estate Sales. Among those listed: **Jacob Spore to Ebenezer Williams, Jr.**

Source: *GRAND LEDGE INDEPENDENT*. 10 April 1874.

Township elections recently held. Among those listed: **George W. Gates**.

Source: *GRAND LEDGE INDEPENDENT*. 29 May 1874.

A new store quarry is being opened up near the river by Messrs. **O. F. and G. D. Williams**. Two men named Hillard, from Coldwater, are also working in stone near the **Williams** quarry.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 29 May 1874.

Sheriff's Sale. Against **Addison O. Darrow**.

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 12 June 1874.

Real estate sales for the week ending 10 June. **Orton Williams & others to David H. Treat**.


Source: *GRAND LEDGE INDEPENDENT*. 10 July 1874.

Married. 2 July by rev. A. O. Jenne, at his residence, **Mr. Henry Williams and Miss Mary Brailey**, both of Oneida.

Williams Information taken from Various Newspapers

Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 24 July 1874.

Married. 22 July at Vermontville, by **Rev. W. H. Benedict, Mr. G. Weston Williams** of Grand Rapids, to **Miss Sarah A. Benedict** of Vermontville, dau. of the Rev.




Source: *Charlotte Republican*. 14 August 1874.

Married. 9 August by **Eld. Chistopher Hayden** of Charlotte, at the residence of the bride's son-in-law, **Vedder Sprague** of Bellevue and **Mrs. Eliza Williams**.




Source: *GRAND LEDGE INDEPENDENT*. 11 September 1874.

Married. 6 September by **Rev. S. P. Hewitt, Thos. J. Watson** to **Miss Melissa A. Williams**, both of Grand Ledge.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 9 October 1874.

Article stated that **Albert Williams** will address the people at **Sampson Hall** tonight.



Source: *CHARLOTTE REPUBLICAN*. 4 December 1874.

Williams Brothers, proprietors of the Brookfield Hall advertised Christmas and New Years Balls to be held there, 25 December and 1 January.



Material for Publication

Mail to: Eaton County Quest Editor
PO Box 337
Charlotte, MI 48813-0337
Or contact: Vicki L Dukes
Historybuff62@gmail.com

The Eaton County Quest welcomes manuscripts regarding Eaton County and written articles that would be of interest to our membership for proposed publication. The manuscript or article should be typed on standard-sized paper and have the author's name on each page and numbered. A cover letter, giving permission from the author to publish the material in the Quest, should accompany the material submitted. Restrictions of any kind may not be placed on material to be published.

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The Editorial staff will make the final decision on material to be published.

Due dates for material to be included in the next Quest are:

April 1st

August 1st

January 1st

A Note from our Librarian:

The Society is always in need of books, periodicals, photographs, personal articles that you have written on your family, or any genealogical research material you would like to find a good home.

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What's New At The ECGS Library

By Sharlene Thuma, librarian, tsthuma@juno.com

Note: call numbers are subject to change.

Thanks to everyone who generously donated the following material to our library.

It's very much appreciated by E.C.G.S. and our researchers.

CORRECTION: (from previous issue)

- book- *The Family History of Samuel Hamilton and Mary Campbell*: author is Byron Schmid, not Patricia Combs.

UNITED STATES:

- book- *Ancestry's Red Book: American State, County & Town Sources*, revised edition, edited by Alice Eicholz, 1992, 858 pp., a gift from Gary Copenhaver.....**100.277**

MICHIGAN:

- book- *Red Cedar Log*, Michigan State University yearbook, 2009, a gift from Sue Polhamus.....**SC.333.MS.1**

Eaton County-

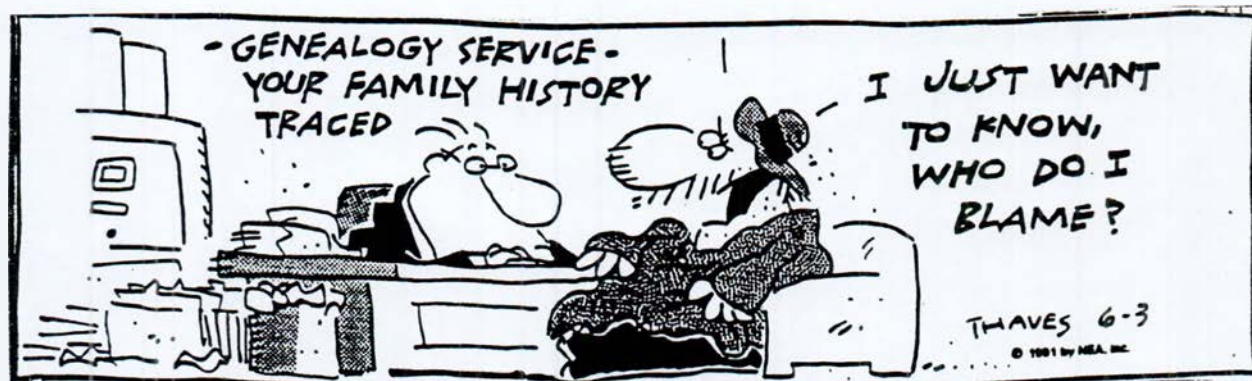
- 30 reels- *Bellevue Gazette*, June 18, 1908 to Sept. 25, 1985, an ECGS purchase..... **Microfilm**
- 821 photos- *Charlotte Shopping Guide*, majority are of Charlotte, 1978-2000, a gift from The Charlotte Shopping Guide.....**P.642.os**

- photo (reproduced)- Wheaton School, group, 1919-1920, all identified, a gift from Jill Smith.....**P.647**

- book- *Mascot*, Eaton Rapids High School yearbook, 1926, a gift from Phyllis Whidden.....**SC.508.EH.1**

SURNAMES:

- booklet- *BRADLEY Family Record*, compiled by Lena M. Bradley Phillips, 1930, 27 pp., a gift from Phyllis Whidden.....**900.BR.05**
- book- *Alexander & Gertrude: An Irish Legacy*, by the Alexander HAMILTON Family, 146 pp., an ECGS purchase**900.HA.09**
- folder- *Ancestors of Clara OCHSENBEIN*, includes a CD & computer printouts of photos, also GROFF, a gift from Fel V. Brunett..... **900.OC.01**
- 11 photos- most unidentified, surnames: LUTHSO, DEPUE, & STRONG, a gift from Phyllis Whidden.....**P.646**



Eaton County Genealogical Society
Surname Contact Form
(for surnames connected with Eaton County, Michigan only)

Submitter's Contact Information: (please print)

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1. Surname Given name Middle name
Birth date Location
Death date Location
Spouse's surname Given name Middle name
Marriage date Location

2. Surname Given name Middle name
Birth date Location
Death date Location
Spouse's surname Given name Middle name
Marriage date Location

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