

KENT COUNTY

A STUDY OF SETTLEMENTS
FROM 1850 to 1910



COHS PHOTO

Pere Marquette Railway

THE LOGGING ERA--1850s to 1910

For most of the counties in Michigan, the era between 1850 and 1910 was affectionately known as the logging era. By the 1890s, however, most of the timber was cut off in Kent County.

But this study is not a report on logging in Kent County. It is a comprehensive look at the settlements that used to grace the beautiful County of Kent.

In the 1850-1910 period (approximately), there were ninety settlements that had post offices--that no longer do. They are called dpo's (dead post offices). This study, then, is meant to inform you what the names of these settlements were, when they received their first post offices, where they were located and who their first settlers were (when known). (by the way, the 90 dpo's, were just in Kent County).

I do not emphasize the railroad very much; but it played an enormous role in the development of Kent County. Hence the picture on the reverse side.

Also listed are a few settlements that did not have post offices. I thought as long as I am doing a study during the era of 1850 to 1910, all of the settlements might as well be included.

There are a number of other counties that I have completed. But I prefer not to distribute any counties until I have talked to their historical society. Here is a list of counties that I have spoken to--and a write-up of these counties is available:

Antrim
Lake
Eaton
Oceana
Osceola
Newaygo
Wexford

Should you like me to schedule a talk with your historical society, church group, etc., about the early history of your county (whichever it is) please contact me at the address below (I do not charge for these talks):

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1.

KENT COUNTY
An Introduction

July, 1990

Tonight we are going to take a trip. A trip into yesteryear. If it is not interesting, exciting --even stimulating to you, then I feel that I will have failed for this reason: the topic lends itself to all kinds of imagination, history and nostalgia. The ingredients are there and hopefully it will prove to be a funfilled, exciting trip.

But before we begin looking into an era filled with so much treasure, there are a few things that I feel should be mentioned. They are (1) the prospective of where I'm coming from (2) what I hope to accomplish and (3) how you can increase your club's treasury.

First and foremost, I do not come to you as an expert in anything. Or even as an historian. I am just a poor, humble stamp collector.

"What has stamp collecting to do with Kent County?" you may be thinking. I will answer: much, yes, much indeed. You see there were nearly 100 post offices in Kent County that no longer exist. Each one has a postal history of its own--one that we will talk about tonight.

Regarding what I hope to accomplish, let me approach it this way: to my knowledge, no one has ever attempted to make a list of each town, hamlet, etc., that existed in Kent County--and also provided a realistic value of what each post mark is worth. So I come to you with a three-fold purpose in mind: (1) I love to study the postal history of Michigan (2) I love to share what I have found and (3) it is hoped that by presenting this talk, several things might happen: (1) it might stimulate your interest and you will join our group that studies Michigan postal history--the Peninsular State Philatelic Society. (2) that you will go home and look through some of those old, unsorted boxes to see if you might have some of these treasures and (3) that you will rack your brain to think of someone who might have some of these highly collectable (and in some cases highly valuable) small pieces of paper that hold so much history. Also, if my talk can save just a handful of these precious pieces of paper (envelopes) from being destroyed, then I will feel that my talk has not been in vane. "Destroyed?" you may be thinking. Yes, it is estimated that up to 95 to 99% of some of these postmarks have been destroyed.

So some are scarce and valuable. Speaking of valuable, money comes to mind. No doubt you noticed that NOT one of my reasons for studying Michigan Postal History is to make money. I have given dozens of talks to historical societies, etc. I do not charge for these talks. But what I do do, is after my speech is over, I sell copies of it for \$5.00. When I have sold six, I turn the rest of the money over to the local club.

You may recall I mentioned something about a pricelist of what old postmarks are worth. I do have a few of these with me tonight. Should anyone be interested in obtaining a copy,

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please see me after my talk is over. I DO charge for the list--and I do not share the cost with the local club. By the way, you will be amazed at what some of these old envelopes (covers) are worth.

Oh, yes, included in the speech are several pages of Michigan trivia, that you will find extremely interesting, I'm sure, as some it is hilarious, plus 6 pages of Kent Cty. trivia.

OK, let's forget money, try to place yourself back in history--say from about 1830 to 1880, and let us proceed.

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The one I rate number three (in regard to hilarity) (but you be the judge) (and this is the last one--on humor) is how Cold Water got its name. But first of all, before explaining this town, I am referring to the (former) Cold Water in Genessee County, not Branch County. All of the settlers were non-drinkers. So it got the name Cold Water, in derision, because that's all the liquid that they would drink.

Question: What do Assyria, China, France, Jordan, South Assyria and Palestine have in common? And add Havanna, Jerusalem, Naples, Singapore and Tyre, to the list. What DO they all have in common? Natch, they all were once Michigan towns.

Civil War heroes were extremely popular with Michiganders, back in the 1860s and 70s. Gen. Ulysses Grant was up near the top. There were no less than twelve communities that took some form of Grant. There were no less than six "Grants." (But when they applied for a post office, they had to change their name to a different one as only one "Grant" could be allowed, at one time.) There were two Grant Centers, a Grant House, a Granton, a Grant's Corner and a Grant Station. By the way, there were no less than 12 names connected with Generals Sheridan and Sherman.

Only one city in Michigan has been under four different "flags" (plus being occupied by another "country")--the American Indians. Although this is not a quiz, nevertheless, I thought it would be fun to have you guess which city it is. Here goes: (you select the one you feel is correct--answer appears at the bottom of the page):

- a. Sault St. Marie
- b. Niles
- c. Detroit
- d. St. Joseph
- e. Mackinaw City
- f. St. Ignace
- g. None of the above

Eleven different names begin with "Indian", from Indian Creek in Kent County to Indian Village in Gogebic and Macomb Counties.

Forests played a big part in naming Michigan towns, communities, settlements, hamlets, etc. There were "Forests" in Wayne and Crawford Counties, a Forest Bay, a Forest City, a Forester, a Forest Grove, a Forest Hall, a Forest Hill, a Forest Home in Antrim and Van Buren Counties, a Forest Lake, and a Forestville.

Answer to above is (b).

4.

Michigan industry evolved around trees, say in the period of about 1840 to 1905. Therefore, it is not unusual to find that tree names played a big part in the naming of their communities. Following are most of the "tree" names:

- a. 12 communities that begin with Ash
- b. Four that begin with Cherry and 21 begin with Cedar
- c. Four that start with Birch
- d. 12 that start with Elm
- e. 12 that begin with Forest
- f. 3 Green Oaks
- g. 7 Greenwoods
- h. 3 Hemlocks
- i. 1 Lumberton and one Lumbertown
- j. 21 that begin with Maple
- k. 31 that start with Mill
- l. 22 that start with Oak
- m. 22 that begin with Pine
- o. 2 White Oaks, 1 White Oak Springs, 1 White Pine, and 2 Whitewoods
- p. 35 that begin with Wood.

No doubt I missed a few, but even the above is an impressive total!!!

Can you imagine a post office being open some three years and never having a letter sent from it? This is what occurred in Otsego County in the hamlet of Wah Me Mee, from 1899 to 1901. Granted a post office on April 28, Charles E. Field was appointed the postmaster. He refused (for reasons unknown). Eventually, the post office was discontinued (on Fe. 14, 1901).

Have you ever been to Vistula, Mi.? Yes, there was a town by this name, and so much history is connected to it. In 1835-36, there was what is known as the Toledo War. Vistula was in Michigan--and had a post office. When the Michigan-Ohio boundary dispute was settled, it became part of Lucas County in Ohio. Among the terms of the dispute, if Michigan would accept the Harris Line (which favored Ohio), instead of the Fulton Line, the federal gov't would do two things: give us the upper peninsula and persuade congress to act favorably on statehood.

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The role of Henry Rowe Schoolcraft in shaping Michigan cannot be overstated. No single individual in our Stat's history had such a profound influence. All that he did will not be state here (as this already too long report is nearly topling because of the weight of its length)--but if you want to read about a man who certainly must have been a genius--then obtain one of his biographies. By the way, he was an Indian Agent in the area of, I would estimate, 1820 to 1840.

ORA LABORA was a tiny town in the Thumb area. Probably it had the neatest name. Its meaning? It means pray and work. It was a town of about 125 people, in the 1860s and 1870s.

Other neat names were Paradise and Perfection. And what about Shemacopink (in Leelanau County)?

Twelve different towns started with Middle. And at one time or another there were four MT. PLEASANTs.

Here is the railroad mileage in the United States in:

1840--2816 miles
 1850--9015
 1860--30,600
 1880--87,801
 1900--198.964

The names of towns (and their origins (or reasons for naming) continue to fascinate For the fun of it, here is a "true and false" test on how See Why (a little town in Chippewa County) got its name:

- a. after the initials of its first postmaster
- b. after an Indian chief in the area who was a counselor to other Indians
- c. after a man who dwelt among the Indians
- d. Indian name which, translated correctly, means the Upper Peninsula
- e. None of the above

I will never know how you came out, but it was named for an early settler--Cornelius Y. Bennett. He was known as C.Y., so that's how the town got its name. (a, above).

And what about JAM, a small settlement in Midland County in the 1890s? I will not give another test on this but all kinds of possibilities lend itself to possibilities. But it was named for James A. Murphy, who was its first postmaster. Did he like preserves? Hint: see what his initials were!!!

Two other towns have similar reasons for their naming--but yet so much different. The towns are GERMFASK and MARENISCO. Let's take GERMFAST first. The township was named for the following settlers: John Grant, Matthew Edge, George Robinson, Thaddeus Mead,

Dr. W. W. French, Ezekiel Ackley, Oscar Shepard and Hezekiah Knaggs. So the locals took the initials of their surnames and came up with GERMFAST. MARENISCO took its name, as stated, from initials but in a little different manner. E. H. Scott, a local lumberman who employed many of the townsfolk, had a wife by the name of Mary Enid Scott. Can anyone figure this one out? Well, they took the first part of each name and came up with--Mar-eni-sco.

CHICAGO is as well known as DETROIT, NEW YORK, etc. There was a CHICAGO (in Keweenaw County), a CHICAGO & GRAND TRUNK JUNCTION in St. Clair County. There was also a CHICAGON LAKE in Iron County. What's so unusual about that? Well, it so happens that She-gog in Ottawa Indian language meant "skunk" and She-gog-ong (also She-gog-gong) meant "place of a skunk." So if you have friends from Chicago who are boastful, just remind them of what the meaning of Chicago is.

Another interesting name is BOSTON. Originally, it came from Great Britain and it was a contraction of St. Botolph's Town. You know how the English like to make a word sound so much differently than we do (for example, WORCESTER is not wor-cest-er to the British but wooster, etc). So St. Botolph's Town became Boston. By the way, there were two BOSTONS in Michigan (one is Houghton County and one in Ionia County, plus a BOSTON JUNCTION.)

A rather unusual occurrence happened in Gratiot County on June 22, 1858. Two towns were opened on the same day (that in itself was unusual as they did not have the communication system that we have today--and how they knew it is anybody's guess) but more unusual was their names: LUNA and STELLA. Luna of course, means moon and stella star.

Probably KLINGENSMITH, in Otsego County, was the first post office in northern Michigan named after a woman. It was named for Sarah A. Klingensmith, who became its first postmaster on Nov. 12, 1885.

Speaking of honoring women, TOWER, which is still an active post office in Cheboygan County, had its town named after Ellen May Tower, who died in the Spanish-American War in December, 1898. She was the first woman from Michigan and one of the first from the United States to be given a military burial.

So I conclude this MICHIGAN TRIVIA portion. There is so much, much more to write on in this area. I encourage you to go to the library and check on additional history. I cannot imagine another State that has more interesting information than our beloved MICHIGAN.

PLEASE NOTE: This is an addendum to the previous pages. Please note the date at the top. I have done further research since July, 1990 and February, 1991. In addition, John Luton of Rockford has been very, very helpful (he has an accounting firm in Rockford and if he is as precise in his accounting practice (and I know for a fact he is!!!) as he is meticulous in his study of old settlements in Kent County--then this is the guy to see for your income tax preparation!!!)

But let me emphasize what I plan to include in these several pages: SETTLEMENTS ALREADY LISTED: I've included a little more information on settlements already listed. So that you will not have to refer to each one, after the name of the settlement, I've added (A.L.) (for already listed). There are a number of NEW SETTLEMENTS listed. After a new settlement, I'm putting a (N.S.) (for new settlement--that is, a settlement not listed before). Not to make this too complicated, but I am placing a "N.S." after the settlements (that are being listed now), that appear on page 15, fourth paragraph. I am listing them now as I have more information (on most of them).

No doubt I will re-type the Kent County report someday and include all of these settlements in alphabetical order. But I keep so busy trying to finish the other counties. For the most part, I will finish Ionia, Montcalm, Mason, Manistee and Grand Traverse Counties by May 1, 1992. I already have completed studies on Antrim, Eaton, (Kent), Lake, Oceana, Osceola, Newaygo and Wexford Counties. By the way, these reports are available from me (see address in various pages of this report). They sell for \$5.00 each. I pay postage.

OK, here are the settlements that I am adding or adding information on:

ALPINE (A.L.)--It was in the nw $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 24.

ALTON. (A.L.)--sw corner of Section 3.

BALLARDS ((A. L.)--sw corner of Section 34.

BALL CREEK (A.L.)--This was near the township line of Sparta and Tyrone; but officially, it appears to have been in Sparta Township.

BORCH'S STATION (A.L.)--It appears that this was also BURCH'S/BORCHVILLE.

BOSTWICK LAKE (A.L.)--It appears now that this could not have been on the GR & I Railroad.

BOWNE (A.L.)--se corner, Section 16.

BRANNIN (N.S.)--(Note: this also appears on page 16): it was in Section 32 of Lowell Township.

BRISTOL (N.S.)--it was in Grand Rapids in Section 10, and had a station on the GR & II Railroad.

BRICK TAVERN (A.L.)--It is still standing. It is on sw corner on Section road.

BUSH'S (N.S.)--On the GR & I Railroad, about 2 miles south of Rockford.

CALEDONIA STATION (A.L.)--It was located in the center of Section 29.

CARLISLE (N.S.)--It was located in Section 12 of Byron Township and was on the GR & I Railroad.

CAMP LAKE (N.S.)--It was located in Section 12, Sparta Township, and was on the Ashley Muskegon branch of the Grand Trunk Western.

CORINTH (A.L.)--It was in sw corner of Section 30.

COURTLAND CENTER (A.L.)--Located in nw $\frac{1}{4}$ nw $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 22.

DEWEY (N.S.)--It was in Section 26 of Grand Rapids. It was on the Detroit-Grand Haven branch of the Grand Trunk Western.

DICKSON (A.L.)--It now appears that Dickson was in Section 1 of Spencer Township.

EARDLEY (A.L.)--Further study lead to believe that it was in the ne corner of Spencer Township.

EDGERTON (A.L.)--It was in Section 13 of Algoma Township (near 3 mile and the railroad tracks.

ELMDALE (N.S.)--It was in Section 1 of Bowne Township and on the Pere Marquette RR BRANCHES Detroit & Grand Rapids and Edmore-Freeport.

ENGLISHVILLE (A.L.)--nw $\frac{1}{4}$ nw $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 1.

ELKERTON (N.S.)--This was in Section 13 of Bowne Township; it was on the Edmore-Freeport branch of the Pere Marquette Railroad.

FOX (N.S.) NOTE: see Page 16 also. FOX was in Section 19, Cascade Township. (It was on the Detroit-Grand Rapids branch of the Pere Marquette Railroad).

FISHER (A.L.)--Confirmed that it was in Section 36, near the township line of Byron--on the GR & I Railroad.

GRISWOLD (A.L.)--Probably where 17 mile road & Howard Road intersect; now I believe that it is very doubtful that it was on the GR & I Railroad.

HILLCREST (N.S.)--This was in the extreme southeastern part of Lowell Township, in Section 36. It was on the Pere Marquette RR, Edmore to Freeport branch.

INEZ (N.S.)--This one was an extremely difficult one to locate (for me). It was found to be located in Section 8, in the southeast quarter. It had a post office from July 13, 1889 to July 9, 1890. The post office was in the home of Frew W. Harrison--its only postmaster. (It was in Solon Township!!!!)

LINCOLN LAKE (A.L.)--It only had a flag station. It was located on the ne $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 3. It was later on the Grand Trunk Western.

LISBON (A.L.)--Specifically, it was on the nw corner, Section 30, Sparta Township.

LYMAN (A.L.)--It was 4 miles north of McCords.

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MALTA (N.S.)--It was located in Section 11, Lowell Township. It was on the Grand Trunk Western--and the Pere Marquette Railroad.

MOSELEY (N.S.)--It was located in Grattan Township, Section 35. The Pere Marquette Railroad went through it.

OAKDALE PARK (A.L.)--It was also known as Station F.

O BRIEN (N.S.)--It was in Section 25, Alpine Township. It was on the Pere Marquette Railroad.

OAKFIELD CENTER (A.L.)--It was on the Section Road of 15/22 (but officiallt in Section 15).

PRAIT LAKE (N.S.)--It was in Section 25 of Lowell Township. It was on the Pere Marquette Railroad.

REEDS (A.L.)--This one proved difficult to locate. But I am quite certain that it was in Algona Township, southwest corner nw $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 5.

ROSS (A.L.)--It was on the Section road 26/35, but officially in Section 26.

SADDLEBACK SIDING (N.S.)--It was changed to DEWEY. (See DEWEY for location).

SAXON (N.S.)--It was in Section 14, Sparta Township (about a mile north of Sparta). It was served by two railroads--the Grand Trunk Western and Pere Marquette.

SCUDDERVILLE (A.L.)--Its specific location was se $\frac{1}{4}$ sw $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 4.

SEGWAN (Also spelled SEGWUN) (listed on page 15). It is now LOWELL; but it used to be a separate community, south of the Grand River.

SHEFFIELD (A.L.)--It was in Section 4, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of South line. (on Section line of 4/3.) Grand Trunk Westen served it after the Tol., Sag. & Musk.

SLAYTON (A.L.)--Regarding its location (more specifically) it was on the sw corner of Section 24.

SOUTH ROCKFORD (N.S.)--It was in Section 2 of Plainfield Township and on the GR & I Railroad.

SPENCER MILLS (A.L.)--Southwest $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 27 (along Section 27 road).

STEWARTS (N.S.)--It was in Section 23 of Byron Township. It was on the GR & I Railroad.

TYRONE (I mentioned this on page 15.) See BALL CREEK (and KENT CITY; it was changed from TYRONE to BALL CREEK, ect.)

ULA (A.L.)--It was near the southwest corner, sw $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 9 (Alpine Township).

WEST CARLISLE ((A.L.)--Mid point sw $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 12 South line.

10.

WHITE SWAN (A.L.)--This was in the southwest corner of Section 31.

I ran into a few others in conducting further studies in our illustrious county. Names such as FERNALD, GAINES, HUGHART, LORENZO, PANTILIND CITY, PARK, SOLVAY and TOLANDS appeared from time to time; but on most of them, very little is known. I didn't take time to count the settlements that I have listed, but there must be close to 140 different ones. Without bragging, I would like to point out that no one has ever located this many settlements before--to my knowldege. I draw this to your attention for several reasons but I am just listing a couple: it is so important to our posterity that we make a note of the early settlements as so much history is being destroyed, even on a daily basis. So by listing these settlements, this might be a start for someone who is so inclined to take it from here (as I have set out to do the entire State--and have not specialized in Kent County). (2) Should any one want to pursue this study farther, I will be glad to assist them in any way that I can.

Finally (regarding the preceding settlements), it might cross someone's mind that "gee, all of these settlements couldn't have existed just in ~~KENT~~ County." If that thought occurred to you, LET ME SAY THIS: many of the towns were taken from old railroad information. It's true that not each one was a bustling town; but each was large to merit a mention in railroad annuls (those, of course, that had a railroad--which includes so many.) Most of the small communities listed in the past 4 pages DID NOT have a station, but were merely flag stops.

MISCELLANEOUS RAILROAD INFORMATION

Did Grand Rapids have a railroad before the Upper Peninsula? The answer is one that you would expect--no. The first common carrier in the UP began operation on February 22, 1855 (Negaunee-Marquette). Grand Rapids first regularly scheduled passenger train began on July 4, 1858. By the way, there was an earlier railroad (the Iron Mountain Railroad) in the UP, which was privately owned and was a horse powered, privately owned tramway.

By 1860, railroad mileage in the state was 770 miles. By 1870, the mileage had increased to 1,739 miles. In September, 1870, the GR & I Railroad had reached Kalamazoo. By October, it had been completed to Grand Rapids. Also in 1870, the Grand River Valley Railroad from Jackson to Grand Rapids was completed via Charlotte and Hastings.

In December 1871, the GR & I Railroad was completed to Clam Lake (Cadillac) and in May 1874, it went all the way to Petoskey. The GR & I finally reached Mackinaw City on July 3, 1882.

The Pere Marquette Railroad Co. was formed in 1900. The Grand Rapids, Newaygo & Lake Shore RR lasted from 1872 to 1881. It then became the Chicago & West Michigan Railway Co., and in 1900 became the Pere Marquette Railroad. It became the Peremarquette Railway in 1917.

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What were the settlements in Kent County like in 1875? How many businesses were there in each community? What were these businesses? Following is a list of the communities that were in existence in 1875--and for the most part--the businesses that were in each settlement, who owned them, who the postmaster was, who pastored the churches in the settlement, etc. (Please--I just could not list them all. For example, to list each Grand Rapids business would take an extra 25 pages or so; so I listed most of the businesses--if they had 20 or less. If anyone wants, desires, needs, etc., you may contact me at the address at the end of the report.) OK, let's start with the settlements that were in existence some 115 years ago:

ALASKA--It had a population of about 350. Three miles from Hammond. On Thorn Apple River; Warren Hall, postmaster. Business directory (hereafter referred to as BD, included J. A. Beamer, insurance agent; H. Buckingham, boots and shoes; J. T. Carlson & Co., brokers & conveyances; L. W. Fisher, saw mill; George Fox, physician; Eugene F. Hale, gen. store; Warren S. Hale, lawyer and insurance office, lumber dealer; D. S. Haviland, groceries and boots and shoes; A. D. Hamling, blacksmith; M. D. Hemling, grocer; Jackson Brothers, groceries and job printers; B.D. Joslin, physician. (There were 21 others).

ALPINE--Population was 400. It was on the Grand Rapids, Newaygo & Lake Shore RR; Postmaster was A. H. Hills; BD were A. H. Hills, postmaster, station & express agent; S. D. Mead, blacksmith; H. Niehans, cigar manufacturing; Chas. Resch, hotel proprietor; R. Rice, saw and shingle mill; A. J. Shearer, gen. store; Porter Vinton, flouring mill; H. C. Wighman, hotel proprietor.

ALTO-- (NOTE--I left a (big) space here, as there was supposed to be additional information about businesses elsewhere. But they could not be found, so I am printing what they had): (paraphrasing what they had): it has a post office in the southeastern part of Kent County. It is about 8 miles south of Lowell and 20 miles southeast of Grand Rapids. It is on the Thornapple River.

ALTON--Apost office in Vegennes Township; Population of township, 1150; Chester Church was postmaster; BD Rev. L. M. Barber, PASTOR, Christians Church; John L. Covert, justice of peace; R. Cowden, blacksmith; Ferris & Woodworth, gen. store; J. Flanagan, drover; A. S. Ford, architect & builder; Jacob Gable, cooper; Gooden & Dawson, flouring mill; B. McGhee, drover; J. Meddler, express agent; E. C. Miller, boot & shoe maker; Edmund Ring, carriage factory & saw mill.

ASHLEY--A post office on east line of Kent County. Kiddville is its shipping station; Sheldon Ashley, postmaster. BD Rev. William M. Buell, Baptist pastor.

AUSTERLITZ--It was located near the township line of Plainfield and Cannon Townships; it was also known as IMPERIAL MILLS; on the GR & I Railroad; north of GR, near the exact center of Kent County; population, 120; M. B. Hine, postmaster. BD William Hyser, physician; Louis Miller, gen. store; Joseph Myers, saloon; John Pollock, boots and shoes; A. J. Richardson, gen. store; Thomas Tradewell, lumber; Frank Whitney, hotel.

BALL CREEK--A post office in Kent County; correspondinf to Tyrone Station; Population, 125; Henry C. Wylie, postmaster. BD N. F. Heading, shingle manufacturing; Brown & Eddy, gen. store; Rev. E. H. Cilley, pastor, Free Will Baptist; Clute & Codn, hotel; Hiram Corbin, blacksmith; Bliss Sexton, physician & druggist; Rev. C. H. Stimson, pastor of United Brethern; Union Stave & Charcoal Co.

BELMONT--Nine miles north of Grand Rapids; in Plainfield Township; 100 population; lumber, shingles, flour, apples, and potatoes shipped; on GR & I Railroad; E. Wilkins, postmaster. BD E. Balkins, gen. store; M. B. Hine, flouring; William Hyser, physician; Issac Post, hotel and station agent; J. M. Reynolds, lawyer.

BOWEN STATION--100 population; in Paris Township; on the Grand River Valley Div. of the MC; 6 miles from GR. produce includes grain & fruit; Fred W. Clark, postmaster.

BOWNE-- Post office in Bowne Township; Lowell is nearest shipping point; leading exports are wheat, wool, pork & beef. BD Abel Ford, physician; Christian Keller, gen. store; Abner D. Thomas, dry goods and flouring mill; Rev. Fred Reed, pastor, Methodist church.

BRICK TAVERN-- In Alpine Twp; 8 miles northwest of G. R.; 4 miles northeast of Berlin; wheat, apples, peaches are its chief products; Edward Camp, postmaster. BD Edward P. Camp, proprietor, Brick Tavern.

BURCH'S--ON THE GR & I Railroad; Algoma Township; 18 miles north of G.R.; a lumbering region. BD Campbell & Jones, lumber mill; Walter Chipman, lawyer; Rev. John Fawcett, pstor, Congregational church; C. R. Smith, gen. store and postmaster; F. L. Stanton, lumber mill; J. S. Weller, lumber mill.

CALEDONIA--Apost office in Kent County; 3½ miles from Caledonia Station; on Thorn Apple River; main products wheat and corn; settled about 1838; O. B. Barber, postmaster.

CALEDONIA STATION--On the Grand River Valley branch of MC RR; population, 130; wheat shipped; A. B. Sherk, postmaster. BD F. Borgy, gen. store; Cheesebrough, Peck & Co., saw mill and handle factory; George Grieb, blacksmith; F. F. Hard, physician; Russell Jones, harness maker; J. A. Leibler, gen. store & express agent; H. B. Peck, druggist; B.M. Pice, hotel; A. B. Sherk, rr agent; Jesse Smutz, wagonmaker; Allen Wedrig, blacksmith; George

Waltz, shoemaker; Darwin Young, meat market.

CANNONSBURGH--16 miles northeast of Grand Rapids; 300 inhabitants; grows grain, fruit, wool and stock. Settled in 1843; A. Kromer, postmaster. BD George Anderson, grist and saw mill; John Baker, boots and shoes; Jacob Bush, wagon maker; C. L. Chamberlain, physician; Rev. Henry Cogshall, pastor (Methodist); Ira Ellis, general store; Hartwell & Bookey, butchers; L. D. Hoag, cheese factory; W. V. Holcomb, carpenter; Rev. William Irons, pastor (Congregational); P. P. Jones, blacksmith; Joyce & Carter, blacksmiths and wagon makers; James Kavanaugh, blacksmith; Mrs. G. C. Kromer, gen. store; John H. Lacey, blacksmith; Thomas Malone, mason; John Murphy, wagon maker; George Ruby, boots & shoes; Walter Schoolmaker, hotel; J. C. Talman, cooper.

CASCADE-- On Thorn Apple River; E. R. Johnson, postmaster; on D & M Railroad (Detroit & Milwaukee); BD Milo Baxter, justice of peace; Cascade Manufacturing Co., furniture manufacturing; Henry Loger, blacksmith; M. W. Danford, physician; H. C. Denison, justice of peace (they must have had a lot of peace around there!!!); C. F. Holt, proprietor, Mineral Springs and township clerk; E. R. Johnson, supervisor; H. N. Lowry, agricultural agent; G. P. Stark, gen. store; E. Tyler, hotel proprietor.

CASNOVIA--On GR, Newaygo & L.S. (Lake Shore) RR; 300 inhabitants; first settled in 1850; good farming; Milton L. Squier, postmaster. BD Atherton, Miner a& Son, gen. store; Augustus C. Ayers, general store; Badger & Freudenthaler, meat market; David Bartian, saw and shingle mill; Casnovia House, William Hyler; R. H. Cobern, physician; Mrs. Catherine Forbes, millinary; Christian Freudenthaler, saloon; Mrs. Angeline Hamilton, millinary; Harmon Hamilton, gen. store; Alexander Hanna, hardware & stoves; Hanna Bros., carriage makers; Hanna & Fulkerson, hardware; Edward Hayward & Brother, saw & planing mill; Frank M. Hentig, flouring & feed; Nelson D. Holt, watches & jewelry; Hemin Irish & Co., hardware; Sam Jones, builder & contractor + 18 others.

CEDAR SPRINGS--1200 population; Nelson Township; on GR & I Railroad; settled, 1856; heavily involved in lumbering, staves, & shingles; newspaper is CEDAR SPRINGS CLIPPER; Charles S. Kidder, postmaster; BD Adams & Benedict, dry & fancy goods; Godfrey Amond, meat market; W. P. Andrus & Co., hardware; Bradford Bailey, meat market; Warren Barber, groceries & saw mill; Thomas N. Barker, lawyer; Wellington Barkley, blacksmith; Barnes & Rawson, saloon & resturant; J. O. Benedict & E. R., shingle dealers; Jacob Bickhart, planing mill; William Black, grocer; R. Blackmer, groceries & saloon; Hiram Brace, groceries; Curtis Buck, lawyer; C. S. CLIPPER, L. M. Sellers, publisher; C.S. Exchange Bank, H. C. Russell & Co., proprietors; C.S. House, Hamilton & Carr, proprietors; Geo. Chappel, physician; Elisha Chester, physician; James D. Clark, gen. store; Alexander

Coffin, flour & food, + 46 others.

CORINTH-- Post office near south edge of Kent County, 2 miles east of Ross Station; on GR & I Railroad. Daily mail.

COURTLAND CENTER--20 miles northeast of Grand Rapids; on GR & I Railroad; agricultural region; tri-weekly mail; George T. Saunders, postmaster. BD Rev. M. Morris, Episcopal minister; N. D. Saunders, hotel proprietor; F. C. Stegman, cider manufacturer; W. T. Taplain, physician; C. White, blacksmith.

EDGERTON--200 population; Algoma Twp; lumber & shingles main products; James Barnes, postmaster. bd J. H. Anderson, sawmill; James Barnes, gen. store (& p.m.), Station agent, GR & I RR; G. Becker, shingle mill; James Cain, saw & shin. mill; Coon & Brown, shingle and grist mills; Oscar House, lumber mfg; M. C. Kidder, saw and shingle mills; C.H. Munro, gen. store; Preston & Davis, shingle mill; J.H. Truax, saw & shingle mill; F. E. Tryon, groceries.

ENGLISHVILLE--20 inhabitants; Alpine Twp; on GR, Newaygo & L.S. RR; 12 miles north of Grand Rapids; Richard English, postmaster. BD Rev. Edwin Cummings, pastor (Disciple Church); S. English, lumber dealer; William English, groceries, produce dealer & station agent; A. McDonald, blacksmith;

FALLASSBURGH--A population of 100; 5 miles north of Lowell; Vergennes Twp; on Flat River; grain, grass, & fruit & lumber shipped; settled in 1838; daily mail; C. W. Fallass, postmaster. BD J. Bentley, wagon maker; Jw. fallass, miller; S.S. Fallass, gen. store & physician; L. Hooper, hotel; Levi Phillips, blacksmith; Rev. James Roberts, Methodist minister; Allen Willet, blacksmith.

FISHER'S STATION--Between 25 to 30 population; on GR & I RR; 6 miles south of GR; Warren Crippen, postmaster. Edwin Barman, hotel proprietor; Peter Race, groceries; Frank Race, station agent; Walter Race, physician; John Espees, boot & shoemaker.

GRAND RAPIDS--(NOTE: Some may be disappointed that I am not listing each business (like in most communities). These are available, should anyone care to know. Just contact for more info).(I am listing a few facts that I hope will be informative). Population in 1860, 8,085; 1870, 16,507, 1875, 25,989; The following railroads came into GR: (from East): Detroit & Milwaukee; Grand River Valley br. of MC; Southward: GR & I, Kalamazoo Div. of Lake Shore & Mich. Sou; Br. of Chicago & Mich. L.S.: (branch extends to Holland & Grand Haven). Northward: GR & I; Grand Rapids, Newaygo & L.S.. (Source states "railroads in 8 different directions (like south, southeast, etc.) serve Grand Rapids.)

GRAND RAPIDS (CONT)--In 1821, Ottawa Indians ceded to the United States about a mile square where the center of Grand Rapids now stands. In exchange, the U.S. agreed to build a mission station; it was to maintain a teacher and a blacksmith "thereon at an expenditure of \$1000 a year for the mission, etc.. Rev. L. Slater, a Baptist clergyman, was eswas the first to arrive permanently, setting up the mission in 1824. Soon after, Louis Campau, an Indian trader, moved from Detroit where he was employed by the Northwester Fur Co. Here are a few firsts (for Grand Rapids):

Newspaper--1837

Bridge across Grand River--1843

Plank road connecting GR and Kalamazoo--1854

Lighted by gas--1857

First train and cars entered GR on---July 10, 1858

There are over 1500 different businesses listed in the business directory of 1875. Among those listed were: 3 churches, 3 bridges over Grand River; 4 wholesale groceries; 2 national, 1 savings and 3 private banks; 4,819 pupils enrolled in public schools; 1 free library; 4 daily newspapers (DEMOCRAT, TIMES, EAGLE, EVENING NEWS); letter carriers; fire department had 3 steam engines, with a fire alarm telegraph. We'll stop here. Obviously much, much more could be written. But let's go on to other settlements, MOST of which, VERY LITTLE is known (as opposed to Grand Rapids, where much, much is known).

GRANDVILLE--700 inhabitants; it was on the Grand Rapids branch of the Chicago & L.S. RR, and Kal. division of the L.S. & L.S. RR; 3 churches, Dutch Reformed, Congregational and Methodist; J.A. Knowles, postmaster. BD D. C. Britton, blacksmith; Rev. W.A. Bronson, Methodist pastor; S. O. Bryant, Congregational; H. Daley, wagon maker & blacksmith; Levi Day, physician; Rev. W. P. DeYoung, Dutch Reformed pastor; A. J. Durham, livery; J. W. Furman, harness maker; GRANDVILLE Plaster Co, plaater and stucco; Grand River Valley Plaster Co., plaster & stucco; J. Grtter, grocer; Blake Haven & Co., heding & barrels; Mrs. Clara Jenniss, hotel; McCoy & Davis, general store; E. Manlitz, boots & shoes; J.E. & B. F. Phillips, gen. store; O. F. Powell, express agent; S. Powell & Son, boots & shoes; N. Shoemaker, gen. store; S. C. Smith, physician; S. Sullivan, boots & shoes; (+ five others).

GRANT--Apost office in Grattan Township, 11 miles north of Lowell; Daily mail.

GRATTAN--15 miles north of Lowell; flour & wagons are manufactured; population, 100; settled 1836; daily mail; A. B. Ford, postmaster. BD Rev. Wm. Buell, Baptist pastor; M. Byme, wagon maker; Chas. Eddy, gen. store; L.A. Elkins, hotel; A. B. Ford, druggist; Robert Howard, flouring mill; L. S. Linsley, shoe maker; R. L. Madison, hotel; James

Petrie, carpenter & builder; G. M. Spencer, physician; J. R. Trast, gen. store.

HAMMOND--On the Grand River Valley RR (br. of MC); Gaines Twp; 9 miles southeast of GR; Chas. Deming, postmaster. general store; Hammond & McQueen, hotel proprietors; W. N. Porter, rr station agent & express agent.

HARRIS CREEK-- ON JUNCTION OF Harris Creek & Coldwater River; in Bowne Twp; 10 miles east of Caledonia; 8 miles north of Middleville; on Grand River Valley RR; main industry: agriculture; tri-weekly mail; A. D. Thomas, postmaster. BD Thos. Burns, blacksmith; Henry D. Francisco, justice of peace; A.D. Thomas, gen. store & miller; Wm. Yeateman, wagon maker.

INDIAN CREEK--Alpine Township; 5 miles northwest of GR; & 3½ miles west of MILL CREEK; magnificantly adapted to agriculture; grain, apples, hay & wool are the great staples; tri-weekly mail; Adel Shaffer, postmaster; BD Rev. I. M. Chapman, Baptist pastor; Chas. Pierce, hotel; Rev. A. F. Pollard, Congregational minister.

IMPERIAL MILLS--At mouth of Bear Creek, on Grand River; on township line of Plainfield & Cannon; Imperial Mills is the principal merchant flouring mill for the surrounding country; it has 3 runs of stones and is capable of manufacturing 60 barrels of flour daily; proprietor is M. B. Hine; a post office is at the mill; first settled by Andrew Watson in 1837; name of the post office is AUSTERLITZ.

LOCKWOOD--300 inhabitants; on the GR & I; 24 miles north of GR; in Nelson Township; both farming and lumbering abundant; L. H. Austin, postmaster. BD E. Cox, planing mill; M. J. Durfee, shin. mill; D. A. Fairchild, hotel; E. French, hotel; Geo. French, shingle mill; Gaddis & Robinson, saw mill; C. Graham & Co., saw & shingle mills; plus 9 others.

LOWELL--About 2500 inhabitants; on the D & M RR; manufacturing includes 2 flouring mills, a sash & door factory, an axe factory, a planing mill, a chair and furniture factory, and a steam and saw mill; settled in 1848; looking forward to a second railroad--Kalamazoo, Lowell & Northern RR; has a national bank, WEEKLY NEWSPAPER (JOURNAL), etc.; postmaster is A. M. ELLSWORTH. BD Chas. Althen, clothier; American Express Co., W. J. Medler, agent; Atkins & Green, agricultural agents; Earl Avery, planingmill & sash factory; Homer Avery, meat market; Geo. B. Balcom, watches, clocks & jewelry (in post office); Milton C. Barber, grocery; Ramey Barber, wagon maker & blacksmith; DeWitt C. Beadle, harness maker; Geo. Beechler, saloon & boarding; Avery B. Blair, boots & Shoes; Chas. D. Blakeslee, wagon & carriage maker; Boyce, Nash & Nash, manu. axes, picks, etc.; Herman J. Bradley, grain dealer; Wm. C. Brown, watches & jewelry; Brown & Cone, dentists; B. E. Burt, notary public; Mrs. Clara Chapman, millinery; Edwin A. Chapman, photographer; Stephen Cook,

KENT COUNTY (CONT)

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billiard saloon; Coppen & PARKER, HDW. & stoves; + 82 others.

MILL CREEK--Post office & railroad station in Plainfield Township; 4 miles north of GR; at junction of GR, Newaygo & Laker Shore RR and GR & I RR; good farming; Postmaster was Eli Plumb. BD James Crompton, hotel proprietor; Orris Culver, blacksmith; Morris Jarvis, physician; Aaron Leland, saw mill; J. Mintler, pump maker; E. Plumb & Sons, flourin mill and groceries.

NELSON--Post office in Kent County, 16 miles northwest (?) of Greenville. Semi-weekly mail.

NORTH BYRON--Signal station on Kalamazoo Division of Lake Shore & M.S. Railroad; populaion 100; grains & fruits; Alonzo Palmer, postmaster. BD A. Hall, gen. store.

OAKFIELD--

Post office in Kent County,, 7 miles due west of Greenville; 12 miles northwest of Rockford; tri-weekly mail.

PLEASANT--11 miles northwest from Grand Rapids; 6 miles northwest of BERLIN; on D & M Railroad (Detroit & Milwaukee); good farming; Issac W. Stanley, postmaster.

ROCKFORD--On the GR & I; Algoma Twp; population, 800; contains a foundry, a machine shop, 2 flouring mills, 2 saw mills, a shingle mill, a sash & blind factory, etc.; a weekley newspaper, THE GEGISTER; settled. 1843; Judson Spore, post, master. BD Addison & Rowley, planing mill & sash fctory; Charles E. Blakely, druggist; russell Blakely, physician; Wm. Beatty, billiard saloon; Henry Bramer, proprietor, Ohio House & soap maker; Bridge Street House, C. A. Wilkinson & Sons, prop.; Sarah E. Brown, millinery; D.W.C. Burch, physician; Chas. Carlyle, gen. store; Vera Clark, milliner; Horace Colby, hdw; Jackson Coon, boots & shoes; Chas. Cowdin, pub., ROCKFORD REGISTER; James M. Cramer, meat market; William Dansforth, saloon; Edwin N. Davies, blacksmith; Fletcher & Chapel, foundry & machinists; Geo. French, gen. store; Haner & Co., wagon makers; Hoag & Ackley, proprietors Stinson House; James Irons, baker & confectioner; Eliza Jacqua, dress maker; Wm. B. Johnson, furniture; Judson & Hyde, commission merchants; Frank Kutts, druggist; Kutts & Hyde, lawyers; LeBar, Heath & Co., flouring mill; Embree B. Lapham, prop. Lapham Hhouse; Smith Lapham, justice of p.; Jos. Lunn, confectioner; + 25 others.

ROSS--35 inhabitants; Byron Twp; on the GR & I; good farming; Alfred Pelton, postmaster. BD Adam Hanes, hotel proprietor; Alfred Pelton, grocer.

SAND LAKE--)N GR & I; in pine woods; 8 saw & shingle mills nearby; population, 700; lumber, staves & shingles shipped; M. Lewis Swift, postmaster. BD John M. Alexander, jeweler; Orrin Avery, lumber & Shingle manu.; Boaver, Miller, Co., Geo. M. Gotshall, lumber agent; John Berridge, grocer; Jonathan Berridge, saloon & resturant; Ed Bliss, druggist; William H. Cornes, meat market; James S. Cowin, druggist; Crabb & Co., grocers;

John Culbertson, flour & feed; Byron Darrin, blacksmith & wagon maker; Erastus Dickens, Noble House prop.; Jerome Dickerson, gen. store; Dodds & Cook, machinists; Milton Dunnett, agent, John Culbertson; + 25 others.

SPARTA CENTER--On GR, Newaygo & L.S. Railroad; population, 500; has Methodist & Free Will Baptist Chrches; also has saw & grist mill; M. B. Nash, postmaster; B. F. Babcock, physician; J. M. Balcom, hotel prop.; J. S. Bartman, blacksmith; E. Bradford, gen. store; H. T. Calkins, physician; Rev. L. W. Calkins, Methodist Episcopal minister; M. J. Cole, millinery; L. G. Cornwell, wagon maker; Ths. Creamer, boots & shoes; Wm. Dennison, livery; Dennison & Siple, billiards; E. C. Emmons, physician; Emmons & Raymond, druggists; Wm. H. Fisk, blacksmith; Rev. J. H. Hallock, pastor, Free Will Baptist; Chas. Hinman, harnessmaker; H. P. Hickcock, wagon maker; G. W. Judson, general store; W. E. Kindman, photographer; Cogshall Loop, livery; M. B. Nash, general store, E. W. Norton, (Free Will Baptist); W. I. Olmstead, saw a& grist mills; R. F. Richards, hardware; A. Roos, tailor; B. Sexton, physician; David Snyder, harness maker; B. W. Soules, grocer; and R. H. Woodin, gen. store.

SPENCER MILL--In Spencer Township; 4½ miles east of Greenville; farming & lumbering; weekly mail; O. P. McClure, postmaster. BD E. Boington, general store; J. Griswold, saw & shingle mills; Rev. C. King, pastor, New School; Rev. Niles, pastor, Baptist.

TYRONE (see BALL CREEK)

WHITE SWAN--A post office in Kent County; 26 miles north of Lowell, and 10 miles west of KIDDVILLE : on the D. L. & L. Mich. RR; semi weekly mail.

The info. on pages 11 to pages 16 was taken from a different source than the information on previous pages; thus, there may be a discrepancy here and there. Again, many may wonder why not each and every business was not listed. Probably I should have; on the other hand, all of the businesses are listed for the smaller settlements, settlements like Grand Rapids, Grandville, Lowell, Rockford, etc., have very active historical societies. No doubt the last few pages of information will not be news to them, as they already know their history. But to others, I hope that it will be fascinating--as it was to me.

I have much, much more info on Kent County--such as a chart on township population by 4 to 6 year increments from 1840 on; postmasters of active post offices (since the p.o. was started), etc. Lastly, references use were ALONG THE TRACKS, POLK MICHIGAN STATE GAZETEER, MICHIGAN PLACE NAMES, MICHIGAN MANUALS, MICHIGAN GHOST TOWNS, County Atlases, THE STORY OF GRAND RAPIDS, LOGS AND LUMBER, old County maps and info provided by JOHN LUTON, of Rockford, and, of course, Post Office Archives.

19.
CHARLES F. JOHNSON
1254 HILLBURN N.W.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

KENT COUNTY (CONT)

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Following is a list of settlements that used to be in Kent County, but (for the most part) are no longer do. I've separated the communities into those that had a post office and those that did not:

SETTLEMENTS THAT HAD A POST OFFICE

Alaska
 Algoma
 Alpine
 Alton
 Ashley (from 1854 to 1878 only)
 Austerlitz
 Ballards
 Ball Creek
 Bostwick
 Bostwick Lake
 Bowen Station
 Bowne
 Braceville
 Brick Tavern
 Buck Creek
 Brownville
 Burchville
 Caledonia Station
 Cascade
 Celsus
 Chapel
 Chauncey
 Childsdale
 Cloud
 Corinth
 Courtland
 Courtland Center
 Crosby
 Cuba
 Dickson
 Dutton
 Eardley
 East Paris
 Edgerton

SETTLEMENTS THAT HAD A POST OFFICE (CONT)

Englishville
 Erin
 Evans
 Fallasburgh
 Fisher's Station
 Flat River
 Gaines Center
 Gainesville
 Grahamville
 Grattan
 Griswold
 Hammond
 Harris Creek
 Harvard
 Imperial Mills
 Inez
 Indian Creek
 Kent
 Keller
 Kinney
 Labarge
 Lake (3-24-1857 to 1-22-1858)
 Laphamville
 Lincoln Lake
 Lisbon
 Lockwood
 Logan
 Loomisville
 Lyman
 McCords
 Mill Creek
 Nelson (from 1856 to 1882)
 North Brownville

SETTLEMENTS THAT HAD POST OFFICES (CONT)SETTLEMENTS THAT HAD POST OFFICES (CONT)

North Grand Rapids
 North Byron
 North Cannon
 Oakdale Park
 Oakfield
 Oakfield Center
 Pangborn
 Paris (from 5/10/188 to 8/15/1857)
 Parnell
 Paul
 Perrins
 Pleasant
 Reeds
 Ross
 Walker

Sheffield
 Slayton
 Somerville
 Soldiers Home
 South Grand Rapids
 South Sparta
 Sparta Center
 Spencer Mills
 Ula
 Vergennes
 Velzy
 West Carlisle
 Whitneyville
 White Swan

NOTE: To be certain that you understand my purpose for listing these settlements, I wish to emphasize that these are a repeat of the settlements listed on the first 13 pages of this report--but they show which ones had post offices. Now, following is a list of those settlements that DID NOT have post offices (again, these settlements are listed throughout my report):

SETTLEMENTS THAT HAD NO POST OFFICESSETTLEMENTS THAT HAD NO POST OFFICE (CONT)

Ball Creek Station
 Brannin
 Brigham
 Buena Vista
 Burton Heights
 Bristol
 Bush's
 Carlisle
 Camp Lake
 Dewey
 Elmdale
 Erie
 Elkerton

Fox
 Gougeburg
 Hillcrest
 Malta
 Moseley
 O'Brien
 Pratt Lake
 Saxon
 Saddleback Siding
 Segwan
 South Rockford
 Stewarts
 Wentworth

MORE KENT COUNTY TRIVIA

I have run across some more KENT County history that is just too good to pass up. (I'll identify its source at the end of the trivia.) First, though, before we get into KENT County history, here are some facts that are very interesting, I feel:

THE LEADING LUMBER PRODUCING STATES, 1850-1870:

First, the numbers of lumber companies in the leading lumber-producing states (New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Maine, and Michigan, are a little deceiving. Here is what I mean: New York led all states with 4,625 firms. Next was Pennsylvania with 2,894; followed by Ohio, Indiana, Maine and bringing up the rear was Michigan (this was in 1850. The leaders did not change much, in 1860 and 1870 (oh, Michigan went from 6th to 5th in 1870, regarding the number of lumber firms). But the area of CAPITAL INVESTED CHANGED dramatically, as did the VALUE OF THE PRODUCT. In 1850, Michigan was near last regarding capital invested (in lumbering). But in 1870, it was first with \$26,990,450 invested. With its big increase in investment, it also shot to the top in the value of product: it had a total value of 2,464,329 in 1850; by 1860, the value of product had increased to \$9,303,404--and by 1870, it was a whopping \$31,946,396!!!

(Taken from Bureau of the Census, eight Census, 1860, vol. 3; Manufactures; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Ninth Census, 1870, vol. 3; and STATISTICS OF THE WEALTH AND INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES).

CAPITAL INVESTED IN LUMBER MANUFACTURING, 1850

In 1850, Kent County had 17 lumber firms with capital invested under \$5000; one between \$5000-\$9999; and one in the \$10,000-\$19,999 class. As a comparison, OTTAWA County had 12 in the under \$5000 group; 13 in the \$5000-\$9999 class; and four in the \$10,000-\$19,999 level. (It also had one over \$20,000). Allegan had 21 in the under \$5000 class--then one in the over \$20,000 grouping.

(Information taken from Manuscript Census for the State of Michigan, 1850).

By the way, KENT County really increased its lumbering firms by 1860: 38 in the Under \$5,000 field; 3 each in the \$5000-\$9999 and \$10,000-\$19,999 grouping; and one worth from \$20,000-\$29,999. What importance do these figures have? Very significant to people who are interested in the mid-1800s--and how lumber played such a big part in our development.

AGGREGATE CAPITAL INVESTED IN LUMBER MANUFACTURING, 1860 and 1870

The total capital invested in lumbering operations in 1860, in Kent County, was \$173,950. By 1870, the total increased over 300%, totalling \$559,200.

(Previous totals taken from Manuscript Census for the State of Michigan, 1860; U.S. Bureau of the Census, Ninth Census, 1870, vol. 3; and THE STATISTICS OF THE WEALTH AND INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES, pages 679-683.)

Common sense (which is not very common) tells me that I should stop now.

But I do not want to waste all of the space below so let me emphasize several points:

1. I love old envelopes!!!! If you have some I will be happy to make you an offer on them.
2. Like old envelopes (I say anything before 1920 is old!!!!), I like old postcards. I am a collector....not a dealer, so I can afford to pay more than a dealer, who has to turn a profit.
3. 3. If you have a rather large number of old envelopes (we collectors call them "covers") I will be glad to come to your house to appraise them. My fee is very, very nominal.
4. I urge you to join the Peninsula State Philatelic Society if you care about our early postal history. It costs just \$5.00 per year. I have some applications, so contact me at my address below.
5. If you know of any other group that might be interested in learning about the early history of our county--it post offices, etc., please give them my name--or (you) give me their name, so I can contact them. I have talked to such diverse groups as church groups, retirement groups, historical societies, etc. I do NOT charge for my talks.
6. By the way, I am NOT an expert on KENT County--or any other county. But I do go to groups in other counties--with their county's history. Last year I spoke at historical societies from Antrim to Eaton Counties (and I have quite a few County histories. Write me and I'll let you know which ones. They sell for \$5.00 each.
7. Finally, I nearly forgot to mention this, but it is so very, very important: in most places I say, for example, "John Smith was the first settler", etc. In most cases what I mean is, "John Smith and his family." Our pioneer women suffered so, so much--and rarely get mentioned. I have (inadvertently) proved my point.

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KENT COUNTY

JULY, 1990

ALASKA. This small settlement was located in the central-northern part of Caledonia Twp. It got its start in 1848 when William H. Brown built a sawmill there. The town was known by several different names. First, it was called BROWNVILLE after Mr. Brown. It was given a p.o. of that name on Dec. 13, 1855. Five days later it was changed to NORTH BROWNVILLE (Dec. 18, 1855). Then on Dec. 4, 1868, it got another name--ALASKA, to honor the purchase of Alaska by Secretary William Seward, in 1867. Its last day of operation was on Feb. 6, 1906.

ALGOMA. Smith Lapham came to the northeastern part of Kent County in 1843 and settled there. Lapham, who had been living near Ann Arbor in Washtenaw County, became its first supervisor when the township was organized in 1849. It was approved for a post office on Oct. 25, 1856. It was opened & closed several times, finally closing on Nov. 30, 1899. It is reported that The Algoma was a name of a steam ship that ran between Grand Rapids and Grand Haven and the town and township was named for it.

ALPINE. The name ALPINE was given this town and township as the first settler, Solomon Wright, the first settlers found nothing but pine all around. The township was organized in 1847. It was given a station on the GR & New. RR and it received its p.o. on Jan. 14, 1862, with Egbert B. Hill serving as its first p.m. The office was closed on June 30, 1937. It was located in Section 24 of Alpine Twp.

ALTON. It was located in the eastern part of the county--and in the eastern part of the township. Walter White became its first p.m. on Feb. 19, 1851. It was located in Vergennes Twp., and was closed on Aug. 13, 1868. It was reopened on Feb 15, 1869 and stayed open until it was transferred to and renamed VERGENNES on June 11, 1900. VERGENNES operated until Dec. 30, 1909.

ASHLEY. Sheldon Ashley was a pioneer settler who came in the early 1850s. It is not certain where it was located I would guess from reading about it in several books that it was located in the southeast corner of Oakfield Township, in section 36. Its first postman was Patrick M. Tully, when it received its p.o. on March 17, 1854. Mr. Ashley then became p.m. until the p.o. ceased to exist (on July 8, 1878).

AUSTERLITZ. This little settlement was located in the east part of Plainfield Twp., where the Rogue River joins the Grand River. The first settler in this area was Andrew Watson, who came there in 1837. He built a large flour mill and the it became known as Imperial Mills. The mill employed lots of people--one source states over 50--and when it burned down in 1876, it was a big loss to the tiny community. It was granted its first p.o. on Jan. 30, 1841. Zenas G. Winsor was appointed its first p.m. According to PO Archives, it was officially named IMPERIAL MILLS on Nov. 5, 1874. But the AUSTERLITZ p.o.

next (which have been Nov. 6, 1874). It stayed active until Sept. 30, 1910. According to an atlas of 1875, it was also known as BUENA VISTA.

BALLARDS (Some references say BALLARDS CORNERS). I did not pin-point this settlement but I feel I came within 1 mile. of its exact location. It was in the southern part of Sparta Township, in Section thirty-five. The gov't approved a p.o. on Feb 26, 1889 and it stayed active till Sept. 30, 1903. Supposedly it was named for a pioneer family in the area.

BALL CREEK. It was platted in 1870 by John W. Thompson and it became a village in 1873. When it was given a p.o. on Feb 11, 1873, it was called BALL CREEK but on Oct. 5, 1876 it was renamed KENT CITY. It was incorporated as a village in 1908. It is located in Tyrone Twp., of course.

BALL CREEK STATION. According to an 1873 atlas, BALL CREEK STATION was in Sparta Twp., on the GR & New. RR, in the northern part of the twp., It never had a p.o., per post office records.

BORCH'S STATION. A small hamlet, located in the northeastern part of Algoma Twp. It had a station on the GR & Indiana RR. It never had a post office.

BOSTWICK. BOSTWICK was located in the central portion of Cannon Twp., on the n.east border of Grattan Twp. It was approved for a p.o. on Oct. 27, 1884, with Marquis L. Jackson its first p.m. It stopped being an active p.o. on Feb. 15, 1901.

BOSTWICK LAKE. This is not to be confused with BOSTWICK. B.L. was located in the upper part of the twp., near Bostwick Lake. It was an older settlement than BOSTWICK, having been settled in the 1840s. It was first settled by E. B. Bostwick, who was the business agent for LeGrand Cannon. Mr. Cannon was a wealthy easterner who owned a large tract of land there. It was on the GR, Green & Alpena Railroad. It was approved for a p.o. on Aug. 31, 1861. Nathaniel Steele was its first p.m. With most all the lumber gone, so were its residents and it closed shop on March 27, 1874.

BOWEN STATION. (It had a p.o., but see CROSBY).

BOWNE. It was located in the se part of Kent County, in Bowne Twp. It was located about 2 miles from Bowne Center, which was in the center of the twp. In 1850, it had a pop. of 214. By 1870 (the twp) had grown to 1275. It won its request for a p.o. on 9-16-1850; Justus G. Beach was appointed its first p.m. It was cancelled out on April 30, 1904.

BOWNE CENTER. According to an 1875 atlas, it had a p.o. but I could not find a record of

one in official p.o. records. This tiny community was first settled by Jonathan Thomas, who came there from Ovid, NY. The trio of Roswell C. Taylor, Norman Foster and Justus Beach are considered the founders of Bowne Center, in 1838.

BRACEVILLE. This was a very small settlement in Spencer Twp., and located in the extreme ne part of the county. Not many people lived in the twp. and an 1875 atlas states: "Spencer Twp. can boast of no villages"(but if my memory serves me correctly there was one --SPENCER MILLS). It is agreed there was little activity up there. FOR INSTANCE; THE State owned more land there than any other twp.in the county (the Flat River Co. owned 2729 acres in the twp. in 1875) and there were only 3 sawmills there in 1875 (that is, Spencer Twp). But getting back to BRACEVILLE, Elisha Brace, who owned Sections 7 & 8, became p.m. on March 16, 1858 and the p.o. only stayed active till Oct. 13, 1859.

BRICK TAVERN. It was located in the sw part of Alpine Twp. The tavern was owned by Edward P. Camp and it was home to the p.o. Also, it was home to the first p.m., Mr. Camp, who became its first p.m. on June 26, 1874. It only stayed around about 4 years, succumbing on June 24, 1878.

BRIGHAM. This was a tiny community near county line in the se part of Sparta Twp. It never had a p.o.

BROWNVILLE. See ALASKA.

BUENA VISTA. This is mentioned under AUSTERLITZ, but just a word or two more: According to an 1873 atlas, it had a p.o. But no record could be found in p.o. archives.

BUCK CREEK. Byron Township was its home, in the sw part of the county. It got its first p.o. on Feb. 6, 1856. George S. Tuttle was its first p.m. The last date of service was on Oct. 15, 1869, when it was changed to BYRON CENTER.

BURCHVILLE. BURCHVILLE was in Algoma Twp., towards the ne part of the county. It had a station on the old GR & I Railroad. It was platted in 1868 by John S. Weller. Jefferson Burch, Mr. Weller's partner and builder of the first steam sawmill there in 1866, hd the station, BURCH, named after him. The p.o. was officially known as BURCH'S and it was opened on Nov. 20, 1868. Earl K. Childs was its first p.m.; it ceased operating on Sept. 8, 1879.

BURTON HEIGHTS. Most of you may think that this doesn't merit special recognition. But it was started as a separate (from GR) settlement in 1833, when Barney Burton first came there and built the first log house. It never had a p.o. of its own and was absorbed into GR, probably about 1850 or 1860.

CANNON. Most reference books do not list this village. But an 1873 atlas lists as follows: a town of 1250, in Gaines Twp. (Gaines Twp. is a long way from Cannon Twp.; but folks I'm just reporting what was in the atlas.)

CALEDONIA STATION. The first railroad in this area was the Grand River Railroad. Caledonia Station had a station on it when it came through, in 1870. When it was approved for a p.o. on April 4, 1870, Adam R. Sheek was named its p.m. On July 20, 1894, "Station" was dropped. The village was recorded and platted by David Kinsey and Roger S. Jackson in 1870. It was named Caledonia after Caledonia, NY, where a number of settlers hailed from. CALEDONIA was incorporated as a village in 1888. (It was first settled by Asahel Kent, in 1838. Mr. Kent died and his widow married tavern-owner Peter D. McNaughton. Mr. McNaughton was appointed CALEDONIA's first p.m., on Aug. 15, 1843.

CASCADE. Joel Guild pioneered here in 1845, becoming the first owner of the land where CASCADE was located. Daniel S. T. Weller bought the land from Mr. Guild and platted the village. It was named CASCADE because of the "fine fall of water." He had hopes of building water-powered mills, but this never materialized. It was given a p.o. on March 7, 1854. The office last until Sept. 30, 1910. Dr. M. W. Alfred was its first p.m. CASCADE was located in Cascade Twp., se of Grand Rapids.

CASNOVIA CORNERS. For people who are sharp (and well-read) they will say, "Come on, CASNOVIA is in Muskegon Cty." Not when it was formed back in 1850. It was in Kent County. My records do not show the exact date that it was transferred to Muskegon County, but an 1853 post office record shows it to be in Kent County. It was named by Lou Fulkerson, sort of, who owned Casnovia House (which means casa house and nova (new) or new home. Its first p.m. was Daniel D. Bennett, taking the job on Oct. 9, 1851.

CELSUS. It was one of the few p.o.'s in Spencer Twp. It is not known (by me) where it was exactly, but I think it was in the se part of the twp. It apparently wasn't too large as the post office only lasted from Feb. 17, 1866 to May 21, 1868. Shepard B. Cowles was its first and only p.m.

CHAPEL. This area, which is now home to a brand new country club, was in the nw part of Ada Twp. When it rec'd its first p.o. on Feb. 1, 1884, it was out in the "sticks." Donald McNaughton, a farmer, was approved for its first p.m. It stopped operating on Sept. 30, 1903. It was also known as Egypt.

CHAUNCEY. Chauncey Porter, who was the biggest landowner in the area when the settlement was founded in 1882, became its first p.m. on Dec. 1, 1882. CHAUNCEY was located in Cannon Twp., 1 mile west of CANNONSBURG. The office operated some 20 years, going out on Sept. 30, 1903.

CHILDSDALE. Zenas G. Winsor was the first p.m. of AUSTERLITZ, in the east part of Plainfield Twp., in 1841. A little to the north, he established another settlement (in 1848) by building a sawmill there. The community was called GIBRALTAR. Along came H. B. Childs, who bought the mill, started the Childsdale Paper Mill in 1866, and was a leader in the township. It had a depot on the GR & I Railroad, which was called Childs Mill Station. Its p.o. didn't start until Sept. 15, 1900, and Clare Kutts served as first p.m. It was closed in the 1920s.

CLOUD. This tiny, tiny community was located in the ne part of the county--in Section .6 of Spencer Township. It didn't survive long as a village with a p.o.--from April 23, 1894 to July 1, 1900. Andrew McDonald was its first p.m.

CODY'S MILLS. It had a p.o., but see CORINTH.

CORINTH. This area was settled by the Cody family in 1866 and it became known as CODY'S MILLS, because they built a grist mill and sawmills. It was located in Gaines Twp., in the extreme sw part. It received a p.o. under the name CODY'S MILLS on May 22, 1867. Nathan Everts was the first p.m. On March 6, 1871, it was renamed CORINTH. It was active until Dec. 15, 1899. Robert S. Jackson platted and recorded the village as CORINTH in 1871.

COURTLAND. Had a p.o.. See COURTLAND CENTER.

COURTLAND CENTER. Barton Johnson was the first settler here in 1838; Alexander Dean came in 1839, with his family. It received its p.o. on Jan. 30, 1841 under the name of COURTLAND. As it was located near the center of Courtland Twp., it was renamed COURTLAND CENTER on Oct. 24, 1856 (also, the COURTLAND p.o. had been closed on Nov. 10, 1850. When it reopened, it was moved to COURTLAND CENTER). Philo Beers was its first p.m. (in 1841). John Woodruff was its first p.m. under COURTLAND CENTER. It lasted till Feb. 15, 1901. In 1875 it had 1 hotel, 1 church, and a few other buildings.

CROSBY. This small community was located towards the sw part of Paris Twp., on the Mich. Central RR. It was first called BOWEN STATION and it was given a p.o. under that name on Dec. 16, 1870; on Sept. 18, 1883, it was renamed CROSBY. Frederick S. Clark was its first p.m. According to old maps, it also was known as BOWEN. The office went out between 1935 and 1945.

CUBA. Some p.o.'s were difficult to locate. Cuba was one of them. It was located in Section 17 of Gaines Twp. Apparently the post office was in the home of Andrew Mesnard, its first postmaster. Per post office archives, a post office was granted to this tiny hamlet on May 10, 1844 to Jan. 16, 1868. By the way, there was a CUBA school in Section 16 (of Gaines Twp)..

CUTLERVILLE. Although CUTLERVILLE never had a p.o., a few facts it are interesting and should be included in this study. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Cutler and their 10 children

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migrated here from New York State in 1853 and settled in the area where Pine Rest Hospital is today. He bought 325 acres and built the first log cabin in the area. More info is available but let's leave that to the real historians.

DICKSON. This is the third hamlet that I am having trouble pinpointing. It had a station on the old Det., Lansing & Northern RR, so we can eliminate a few twps., starting at the northwestern, western and southern parts of the county. By my calculations, it must have been in the extreme northeastern portion of the county, no doubt in Spencer Township, (as the railroad did not run thru many other area of the county). It was no doubt in Sect. 5. It didn't last long as it was granted a p.o. on March 4, 1879 and the office just lasted to Jan. 23, 1882 (about 2 years). George H. Hazelwood was its first postmaster.

DUTTON. Stephen A. Hammond had a farm there in 1870 when the Grand Valley RR came thru. A railroad station was given the tiny hamlet, on land previously owned by Mr. Hammond. A few settlers had come in the late 1860s to this area and a p.o. was granted called HAMMOND, on Jan. 27, 1870. George W. Woodward was appointed the first p.m. Robert S. Jackson (who also platted CALEDONIA in 1870) platted it and recorded it as HAMMOND in 1875. It was renamed DUTTON on Dec. 6, 1882. It closed on Feb. 10, 1966. HAMMOND had a pop. of 275 in 1875.

EAGLE MILLS. Certainly it is not known for sure where this was but it is stated in two references that it was "3 miles south of Grand Rapids." So we'll leave it at that; it did have a station on the Lake Shore & Mich. RR in 1878; it never had a p.o.

EARDLEY. This was located in the southeastern part of the county; ON THE Det., Lansing & Northern RR. It was approved for a p.o. on Aug. 28, 1891 to July 31, 1902. James A. Eardley was its first p.m. It was in Section 26 of Cascade Twp.

EAST PARIS. It was located in the east-central part of Paris Twp. Some early settlers in the area were the Guild brothers (Edward, Daniel and Joel), Barney Burton and James Vanderpool, who all came about 1833. The township was formed in 1839 and E. Paris was given that name because of its location. It was granted permission to have a p.o. on June 4, 1875 to March 15, 1914. Abraham C. Barclay was its first p.m. Joel Guild was the twps. first supervisor.

EDGERTON. It was located about a half mile from Courtland Twp., in Algoma Twp. Edgertons were early settlers and landowners in the area. It had a p.o. from Jan. 25, 1869 to April 15, 1937. Andrew House was its first p.m. It had a station on the GR & I Railway. Some also referred to it as Port Hollow.

ENGLISHVILLE. Joseph S. English was a large landowner in Alpine Twp. He settled there in 1845. It had one of the area's first schools, built in 1852. It was in the northeastern

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part of the twp., on the Pere Marquette RR. It received its p.o. on July 29, 1856; it lost its p.o. in the 1920s.

ERIE. A small settlement evolved where the Thornapple River and the Grand River join; the hamlet was known as ERIE and it had a stage p.o., awarded in 1837, but it never officially had a p.o., according to old postal records.

ERIN. Yet another p.o. that has faded away is ERIN. I'm not a betting person but if I had to guess where it was I'd say some place in Grattan Twp. At any rate, it received its office Nov. 24, 1854.

EVANS. Barton Johnson came to Courtland Twp. in 1838, and became its first permanent settler. It was given a station on the old Toledo, Saginaw & Musk. RR. It was given a post office on May 3, 1888. Its office was closed in the early 1920s.

FALLASBURG. This area was settled by J. Wesley Fallas in 1839, he built a grist mill in 1840. The town of FALLASBURGH came into existence and on Jan. 21, 1851 it was given a p.o., with John M. Waters serving as its first p.m. The spelling of FALLASSBURGH with an "h" was changed on July 29, 1893. Its office was closed on April 30, 1901. Its first supervisor (of Vergennes Twp) was Rodney Robinson, in 1839.

FISHER. According to several references, this was a hamlet, 6 miles south of Grand Rapids. It never had a p.o.; it had a station on the GR & I Railway, in 1880. One map shows it located one mile from Byron Twp.

FISHER' STATION. I think this was a different hamlet, as it had a p.o. It was located north of Fisher, it is believed. It too had a depot on the GR & I, and it was approved for a p.o. on Feb. 28, 1871. Robert S. Jackson, whom we have heard of before (he platted DUTTON and HAMMOND) platted and recorded FISHER'S STATION for David Fisher and Warren S. Crippen, who owned most of the land in the settlement. It closed on Dec. 31, 1903. Also, see KELLOGGVILLE.

FLAT RIVER. No doubt the first p.m. of FLAT RIVER, Rodney Robinson, was the son of Rix Robinson, the pioneer settler in Kent County. The Flat River runs mostly in Vergennes Twp., so chances are, this is where the settlement was located. It received its first p.o. on Oct. 16, 1838. It continued until May 16, 1865.

GAINES CENTER. It was located in the center of Gaines Twp. It was approved for a p.o. on June 6, 1854 to Nov. 15, 1856. Peter Van Lew was its first p.m.

GAINESVILLE--
When the GAINES CENTER p.o. became inactive, apparently GAINESVILLE was there to pick up the slack. It was granted a p.o. on Sept. 29, 1856, with our friend Peter Van Lew serving as its first p.o. Alexander Clark was its first settler, with Alexander Bouck coming a year later (1837). By the way, Gaines Twp. had a population of 319 in 1850; by 1874, it had

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increased to 1273. The p.o. went out on Oct. 25, 1871. It had a station on the GR & I.

GOODING. This office was in Kent County when it was given a p.o. on Nov. 19, 1888. The office was transferred to Ottawa County on June 5, 1918. It went kaput on Jan. 31, 1923.

GOUGEBOURG. Located in the northwestern part of Kent County, it, I believe, was on the Rouge River, in the western part of the twp. It had a mill on the river and a settlement grew around it. It never had a p.o. GOULD'S MILLS This was a mill settlement in 1878, named after James E. Gould, a pioneer settler and lumberman.

GRAHAMVILLE. This one of the few settlements that had a p.o. in Spencer Twp. It was named for a philanderer--Philander Graham. (Got to have a little humor, you know!!!) The office only lasted about 8 years--from Jan 29, 1857 to March 16, 1865. Mr. Graham was the 1st pm.

GRATTAN. This originally known as GRAITAN CENTER. It began as an Irish-Catholic community in 1844 and by 1845 it had a Catholic church. It was given a p.o. on 1-18-1849, with Edward S. Bellamy the first p.m. The p.o. was closed on Feb. 14, 1906.

GRISWOLD. It was also called GRISWOLDBURG but when it was given a p.o. on March 13, 1877, it was known simply as GRISWOLD. Spencer Twp. was its home and it was founded by lumberman Jason Griswold and farmers Alonzo and John Griswold. Donald Boynton became its first pm. It was closed on Aug. 31, 1900. It was on the GR&I Railroad.

GRANT. It was in Sec. 25 of Grattan Twp. J.E. Mason was its pm in 1895. Reference state "No business places. Its p.o. name was SLAYTON."

HAMMOND. It had a p.o. See DUTTON.

HARRIS CREEK. A settlement in the se portion of the county, it was located in Bowne Twp. (it was located in the sw part of the twp). Jonathan Thomas came here in 1837 from Ovid, NY. , and he was the first settler in the area. It was named for Mr. Thomas' son-in-law--John Harris. Wilber March was appointed its first pm on Jan 29, 1869. It closed 1-23-1882.

HARVARD. HARVARD was located in the nw part of Oakfield Twp., near 15-mile Road. It was on the old Toledo, Sag. & Musk. RR. Its p.o. operated from 1888-1934. Freeman Adis was its first p.m.

IMPERIAL MILLS. It had a p.o. of sorts. See AUSTERLITZ.

JNEZ. This was an extremely difficult p.o. to locate. It was found to be located in Section 8, in the southeast quarter. The p.o., which was granted from July 13, 1889 to July 9, 1890, was in the home of Fred W. Harrison, its first and only p.m.

INDIAN CREEK. It had a p.o. See WALKER.

KELLER. It, too, had a p.o. See LOGAN.

KELLOGGVILLE. The Kellogg, White & Co., located there in 1845. Francis W. Kellogg was a community leader and politician (he was a majority owner of the firm). He was elected to the legislature for 3 terms. followed by 3 terms in Congress. George W. Kellogg =
3/. Congress George W. Kellogg 1869

brother, became pm on June 4, 1856. It was changed to FISHER'S STATION on Feb. 28, 1871. It stayed active till Dec. 31, 1903. It was located in Section 36, Wyoming Township.

KENT. See GRAND RAPIDS.

KINNEY. Located in Walker Twp, Joseph L. Manley became its first p.m. on May 14, 1887. It was in operation till 1905. It had a station on the Grand Trunk. It was named for John Kinney, who was a pioneer settler.

LABARGE. It was located in Caledonia Twp. It was named CALLEDONIA CENTER at first because of its location. But when it got its p.o. name on Dec. 11, 1876, it was called LABARGE. Alex Kilgore was its first p.m.; it closed Nov. 30, 1901.

LAKE. LAKE is one of those tiny, tiny settlements that emerged in the lumbering area that lasted as long as the timber around it did. In this case--it wasn't very long--from March 24, 1857 to Jan. 22, 1858 (dates p.o. was in existence). John Farnham was its only p.m. A (somewhat) educated guess was that it was in the se corner of Sect. 29 of Grand Rds. Twp.

LAPHAMVILLE. It had a po but see ROCKFORD.

LINCOLN LAKE. This small settlement was located in the northern part of Oakfield Twp., in the ne part of the county. It had a station on the Toledo, Sag. & Musk. RR. It received its po on July 16, 1901 and it closed in the 1930s.

LISBON. When it was approved for a po on Dec. 30, 1847, its name was PINTLER'S CORNERS--and it was in Ottawa Cty. On Oct. 21, 1859, it was moved across the county line to Kent Cty. and renamed LISBON. It stayed active till Oct. 15, 1912. It had been named for John Pintler, a pioneer settler who came there from NY State in 1846.

LOCKWOOD. (Also known as LOCKWOOD STATION). One of the few p.o. in Nelson Twp, it was active from 1871-1892. It was named LOCKWOOD for James A. Lockwood, who owned some property there including a saw mill. Lyman H. Austin was its first p.m.

LOGAN. We go down to the se area of the county to Bowne Twp. It was first known as KELLER when got its office on March 8, 1881. It was named after its first p.m., Christian Keller. It was changed to Logan on Sept. 17, 1884--lasting till Jan. 15, 1906.

LOOMISVILLE. One of the few p.o. in Walker Twp, it rec'd its p.o. in 1848 to 1862. It was named for Andrew Loomis, who was a carriage maker there.

LYMAN. It was located in the eastern part of Cascade Twp. Its p.o. lasted less than two years--from Jan. 7, 1900 to Sept. 30, 1902. Incidentally, Cascade Twp. was formed 1845.

MCCORDS. MCCORDS was located fairly close to LYMAN---about 3 or 4 miles south of MCCORDS. It was located about 1 mile south of WHITNEYVILLE. It was on the stage line between HASTINGS and ADA in the 1850s. It was on the Det., Lans. & Northern RR, when it came thru in 1888. It had a p.o. from Oct. 26, 1888 to Oct. 31, 1947. Chas. Freyermuth was its first p.m.

MILL CREEK. It had a p.o. but see COMSTOCK PARK.

NELSON. William Bailey was its first permanent settler, in 1851. A year later John S. Jones arrived. In 1875 it had 2 shingle mills, in the middle of the twp. The township became organized in 1854. It operated till 1882. Miles Dean was its first p.m.

NORTH BROWNVILLE. It had a post office but see ALASKA.

NORTH GRAND RAPIDS. It had a post office but see WALKER.

NORTH BYRON. It had a post office but see SCUDDERVILLE.

NORTH CANNON. This small hamlet was located in north Cannon Twp. It had a post office for a little over a year--from Jan. 9, 1851 to May 13, 1852. James W. Weed was its only p.m.

OAKDALE PARK. OAKDALE PARK was real close to GRAND RAPIDS. It had a station on the Det., Lans. & Northern RR. It had a p.o. from Sept. 18, 1888 to Aug. 29, 1894. Charles L. Wilson, an attorney, was its first p.m.

OAKFIELD. There are about 25 lakes in the twp. OAKFIELD was located about 20 miles ne of Grand Rapids. According to an 1875 atlas, it had 3 p.o.'s (no doubt they were referring to Oakfield, Oakfield Center and Ashley). William R. Davis was the first settler in Oakfield Twp., coming in 1838. He named the town OAKFIELD (and also the twp,) It had a p.o. from Oct. 4, 1850 to March 19, 1877. It was also known as OAK CENTER and PODUNK. William Horton was its first p.m.

OAKFIELD CENTRE. From Jan 18, 1875 to Oct. 31, 1906 it had a p.o., with Nathan H. Gould serving as the first p.m. It took its name from its location.

PANGBORN. IMPERIAL MILLS p.o. just lasted one day--but PANGBORN really was the shortest lived post office in Kent County (as the IMPERIAL MILLS p.o. was changed to AUSTERLITZ) as it only lasted from Aug. 21, 1883 to Sept. 17, 1883. Then it vanished and faded into just a name in p.o. archives, and was very, very difficult to locate. It was named for Elisha Pangborn, who became its only p.m. and was located in Vergennes Twp, Section 28.

PARIS. It was located just se of GRAND RAPIDS, in Paris Twp. It had a p.o. from May 10, 1844 to Aug. 15, 1857. Its first p.m. was Jonathan H. Gray.

PARNELL. Charles Stewart Parnell was an Irish patriot so they named the settlement after, as most were Irish-Catholic immigrants. They settled it in the early 1840s and by 1848 they had buolt St. Patrick's church, there. It had a p.o. from Jan. 4, 1889 to Sept. 30, 1903, with James T. Sullivan serving as its first p.m. It is, of course, located in Grattan Twp.

PAUL. Accoring to two sources, it was located 4 miles from GRAND RAPIDS but I do not know which direction. It was big enough to have a p.o., as from Nov. 12, 1892 to Aug. 14, 1900, it was active. Charles H. Lewis was its first p.m. Probably it was in Sect. 34, GR Twp. By the way, it was named for Wm. W. Paul, an early settler who was Justice of Peace.

PERRINS. This little hamlet had a p.o. but it didn't last quite 4 years--lasting from March 11, 1899 to Jan. 31, 1903. This was another toughie to locate. It was found to be located in the home of John Landheer, its first and only pm, in Sect. 4 of Tyrone Twp.

PLEASANT. This was a small settlement, just north of GRAND RAPIDS, in Alpine Twp. It received its p.o. on Dec. 30, 1847 (to July 13, 1889). John Coffee was its first p.m.

REEDS. It was located in Algoma Township, in the northwest part, on the old Toledo, Sag. and Muskegon RR. It had a p.o. from May 3, 1888 to Jan. 15, 1903. Its first p.m. was John Bowers.

ROSS. There weren't many towns with post offices in them in Byron Twp. but this was one. It was located in the se part of the twp., on the GR & I Railway, and before it was platted in 1871 (by William Thornton for landowner William Ross) it was known as ROSS STATION. But when it received its p.o. on June 22, 1871, it was named ROSS. Daniel Ross was its first p.m.

SCUDDERVILLE. Henry W. Scudder owned a lot of property in the area and when the L. Shore & Mich. Southern RR came thru in 1860 it was given a station of SCUDDERVILLE. But it was located in northern Byron Twp. and wen it was granted a p.o. on Oct. 7, 1872, it was named NORTH BYRON. It was cancelled out on Sept. 30, 1903.

SHEFFIELD. SHEFFIELD had a station on the Tol., Sag. & Musk. RR. It was located in the nw corner of Courtland Twp. Charles Sipple was appointed its first p.m. on March 6, 1891. The office lasted until April 30, 1906.

SLAYTON. The townspeople wanted to name this settlement GRANT and applied for a p.o. but there was already a GRANT. So it was renamed for William E. Slayton, who became its first p.m. on May 28, 1898. It only lasted 4 years, going out on July 15, 1902. It was located in Grattan Twp

SOMERVILLE. It had a p.o. but see SPARTA.

SOLDIERS' HOME. It had a station on the GR & I Railway. It served mostly, the vets at the facility. It was officially called th Michigan Soldiers' Home and was built on property donated by GR. It was built in 1885 and 1886, primarily for Civil War veterans. It got its own p.o. on March 25, 1892 to Aug. 14, 1900. Huntley Russell was its first p.m.

SOUTH GRAND RAPIDS. Given a station on the GR & I Railroad, it was granted a p.o. from July 24, 1888 to Dec. 31, 1904. Noah W. Crocker, who owned a grocery store, was its first p.m. It was located about 3 miles south of GRAND RAPIDS.

SOUTH SPARTA. See ENGLISHVILLE for its history; but first just a word about SOUTH SPARTA: it was given a p.o. on Feb. 28, 1856. Five months later it was renamed ENGLISHVILLE (on July 29, 1856).

SPARTA CENTER. They called this settlement SOMERVILLE first, and it was located about 2 miles south of the present day SPARTA. On Dec. 28, 1848, it was given that name, when it got its p.o. Although the p.o. was called SOMERVILLE, people there referred to it as NASHVILLE (to honor Jonathan P. Nash, who is considered the founder of SPARTA.) On Nov. 7, 1850, the community was renamed SPARTA CENTER. It stayed that way until Jan 13, 1885, when it was changed to SPARTA. It was incorporated as a village in 1883.

SPENCER MILLS. Two men--Cyrus B. Thomas (in 1846) and Henry Stroup (in 1848) pioneered this area. Thomas Spencer, another early arrival, built a mill here in 1855. They called it SPENCER MILLS and it was given a p.o. by that name on Oct. 17, 1857. The twp. was organized in 1861 and called Celsus, was renamed for Spencer later on. It was active till Sept. 30, 1903.

ULA. It was located in the nw part of Alpine Twp., It had a p.o.--from Sept. 7, 1886 to Sept. 30, 1902. Dubois Conklin was its first p.m.

VELZY. Velzy was one of the few p.o. in Solon Twp. (The only other one I can think of was Cedar Springs.) VELZY was located in the north portion of the twp, near the center (of the twp). Sidney Stark was the first p.o., on March 12, 1890. It was active till Aug. 31, 1901. Sidney Stark was its first p.m.

VERGENNES. Some info on VERGENNES is listed under ALTON; but here is a little more: It was settled in 1836 by Sylvester Hodge, who was from NY state. It was soon organized into a twp., with Rodney Robinson appointed its first supervisor in 1838. It was granted a ;p.o. on Aug. 12, 1837. It opened and closed several times, per postal archives, but it ceased to operate permanently on Dec. 31, 1902.

WALKER. Two Canadians and their families--Jesse Smith and Samuel White--arrived in this area in 1836. Walker Twp. was organized in 1838, and the town took the twp. name. It

received a p.o. on Dec. 30, 1847, as INDIAN CREEK. It was renamed WALKER on July 14, 1884. Then, on April 16, 1891, it was renamed NORTH GRAND RAPIDS. The office was closed on Aug. 29, 1894. Today the City of Walker is alive and well; it has a branch post office thru Grand Rapids.

WEST CARLISLE. This was a small village that was located in the eastern part of Byron Twp. It was first called CARLISLE and had a station on the GR & I RR by that name. But when it got a p.o. on March 18, 1884, the office was named West Carisle (there was a p.o. in Eaton Cty. called CARLISLE). It stopped serving the public on Sept. 15, 1910.

WHITE SWAN. WHITE SWAN was located in the sw part of Oakfield Twp. (which is located in the ne part of the county). It received its p.o. on Dec. 21, 1853. John Davis was its first p.m. It was opened and closed several times but on May 20, 1878 it was closed for good.

WHITNEYVILLE. In 1841, Peter Whitney came with his family from central Ohio and established a settlement in Cascade Twp. The township was organized in 1845, and on Feb. 8, 1849 it received its p.o. William c. White was its first p.m. It was closed permanently on July 31, 1909.

This concludes my study of all of the dpo's in Kent County. There are 16 active post offices in Kent County--plus several branches like East Grand Rapids, Kentwood, Rogers and Walker. I deliberated about mentioning each active one--and its history--as this report is so long already. But I feel compelled to mention just a little about most of them, for history's sake, if nothing else. So here goes:

ADA. Rix Robinson came here from Massachusetts in 1821 and built a trading post. He bought his first parcel of land in 1833. Sidney Smith became the first p.o. of ADA in 1837. He had a favorite daughter and you no can guess her name. That is how the town and township got its name. Much more could be said but we'll leave it for the historians.

ALTO. David N. Skidmore founded this settlement in Bowne Twp. in 1845. IT was given a p.o. in 1851. Named ALTO because it was the highest point between Grand Rapids and Detroit (altus means high in Latin).

BELMONT. It was given a p.o. in 1869. The town was platted and recorded by A. B Coffinberry in 1874.

BYRON CENTER. So named because of its location in the township. The twp. was organized in 1836 but it did not receive a p.o. until 1869.

CALEDONIA. See CALEDONIA STATION.

CANNONSBURG. I really should have listed CANNONSBURGH under dpo's. (Someone knocked the "h" out of it--more humor, you know!!) and it became CANNONSBURG in 1894. Its first p.o.

was in 1844. Named for Legrand Cannon, a NY financier. He owned alot of timberland in this area. He never lived there but worked through his agent, E. B. Bostwick and gave 25 lots to the village.

CEDAR SPRINGS. Robbin Hicks is considered the father of CEDAR SPRINGS. It got its p.o. in 1857. It was incorporated as a village in 1871, and as a city in 1960.

COMSTOCK PARK. The first sawmill there was built by Daniel North in 1838. It received its first p.o. in 1848 under the name of MILL CREEK. Charles C. Comstock was a representative that included MILL CREEK from 1885-86. Much could be said about the history of Comsock Park including: it was also known as NORTH PARK; it was also known as NORTH MILLS STATION by several railroads, etc. But in 1906 it became officially known as COMSTOCK PARK.

GRAND RAPIDS. Rev. Issac McCoy built an unsuccessful Baptist mission there in 1822 but the founder of GRAND RAPIDS is considered to be Louis Campau. He came there and opened a trading post in 1826. It was given a p.o. in 1832. It was called GRAND RAPIDS, but bought some of Campau's land (Campau had acquired the city's present area for \$90, in 1831). In 1836 Lyon had the town renamed KENT, after a well-known NY judge. It remained KENT until 1844, when it ws changed back to GRAND RAPIDS.

GRANDVILLE. It too, received an early p.o., way back in 1834. William P. Godwin was its first supervisor. By the way, Luther Lincoln had come down the Grand River with a group of friends looking for a good site. He liked the area and bought land there in 1833. It was incorporated as a village in 1887.

KENT CITY. See BALL CREEK.

LOWELL. Several of the early settlers came from the Lowell, Ma. area, and named the area LOWELL. The first pioneer was from Detroit, howver, Daniel Marsac; he built a trading post on the south side of the Grand River in 1831. Sixteen years later he bought land on the north side of the river. He platted it and recorded it as DANSVILLE. But when it received its first p.o. on June 17, 1851, it took its twp's name, LOWELL. Wickham and Richards replatted the village in 1854 and renamed it after its p.o. It was incorporatated as a village in 1861.

ROCKFORD. Smith Lapham settled this area in 1843. Ap.o. was given and it was known as LAPHAMVILLE, on April 5, 1848. The village was platted and recorded as LAPHAMVILLE in 1856. It was replatted and renamed rockford on Aug. 24, 1866. It was incorporated as a village in 1866 and as a city in 1935.

SAND LAKE. After the Civil War, northern Kent County was be explored and expanded. Robert

Kent Co.-6

JULY, 1990

L. Salisbury together with Fred C. Whitmore, on January 31, 1870 platted the village, recorded and named this small community SAND LAKE. The GR & I came through, bringing milling machinery and other useful equipment, that helped greatly in the growth of this community. Mr. Salisbury was named p.m. (on Jan. 31, 1870).

WALKER. This is listed under the dpo's because that is what it is. Today, of course, there has been a resurgence in WALKER, and it is growing to be good sized city. But it only has a branch--and is considered part of the Grand Rapids postal system.

WYOMING and WYOMING PARK. According to the ZIP directory, both of these cities are branches of the GRAND RAPIDS office. In 1859 there was a WYOMING in Kent County. The present Wyoming is a city in Wyoming Township. In 1958 it was incorporated as a city. It was given a p.o., per postal records, in 1960.

I had planned to just mention some of the settlements, towns, villages, hamlets and communities that sprung up in the 1840-1900 period, but did not have a post office. But I could see that this study was going to be far too long. But let me, at least, recognize a few of them: FOX'S CORNERS. HOPENPYL WOODS, HOLY CORNERS, MCCOY'S MISSION, Mineral SPRINGS, MOSELEY, NASHVILLE, PLAINFIELD, PORT HOLLOW, PRATT'S LAKE, SEGWUN, SOLON, SOUTH KENT, SPRING MILLS, STANDALE, TYRONE and TYRONE STATION. None was large enough to merit a p.o., but each played an important part in the development of KENT COUNTY.

There are about 95 dpo's. I have researched dozens of books--but it is always possible that I have overlooked one or two. If you know of some that I have missed, by all means please let me know.

I am a post card collector. I collect them from 1925 on back. If you have some, I'd appreciate you giving me a call. I am not a dealer so I can afford to pay more for your collection, accumulation, etc. (as I do not have to make a profit on them). I also appraise post card collections. I also buy old envelopes, say before 1925--and advertising covers (before 1925).

A friendly reminder--a pricelist of old post marks from KENT COUNTY is available. I have several copies of it with me tonight. Old postmarks are becoming scarcer and demand has never been higher. Prices for the post marks range from \$2.50 to \$80.00. If you are concerned about finding a buyer, you need not be. I can help you dispose with them. Of course, I charge a very nominal fee for this service.

I am placing a date of July, 1990 on this report, in case it has to be updated.

On the reverse side, I am copying my business card, for your convenience.

Thank you for letting me share my findings with you. It has been a fascinating study for me.

38.

To make it clear, I AM NOT affiliated with the PENINSULA STATE PHILATELIC SOCIETY. But, oh how I would love to have you become a member. The society was organized to promote the study of MICHIGAN POSTAL HISTORY. It only costs \$5.00 a year for membership. I would love to serve as your sponsor.

CHARLES F. JOHNSON
1254 HILLBURN N.W.
GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49504

2-01-1991

PLEASE NOTE DATE in upper right. On page 15 I mentioned that this list might have to be updated. I located more small settlements, and am adding them to this list, at this time:

BRANNIN. BRANNIN had a station on the Pere Marquette RR, but it was never large enough to have a post office. According to the railroad map, it was 1 mile from ALTO.

FOX. One might confuse this small settlement with FOX'S CORNERS. The only similarity is that they were located in the east part of the county. FOX'S CORNERS was in VERGENNES TWP., while FOX was towards the sw corner of CASCADE TWP. FOX had a station on the PM Railway, but never had a p.o. According to the railroad map, it was 9 miles from ALTO and 9 miles from GRAND RAPIDS.

SAXON. It was on the Grand Trunk Railway, and on the ASHLEY & MUSKEGON DIVISION. It was located one mile east of SPARTA (per the railroad map). It was too small to ever have a p.o.

WENI WORTH. This tiny settlement was 6 miles north of BYRON CENTER (per the railroad map) and was on the GRAND RAPIDS Branch of the Lake Shore & Mich. Southern RR. It never had a p.o.

ELMDALE. It was on the Det., Lansing & Mich. RR., on the border of Ionia Cty.—in Bowen Twp. It now is considered to be in Ionia County.

CASCADE SPRINGS. It was a tiny settlement in Cascade Twp., about 2 miles northeast of CASCADE. It never had a post office.

IVANREST. This was a tiny settlement—but large enough to merit mentioning on an old county map from the late 1800s. It was on the Chi. & W. Mich. RR (GR Branch). It was in Wyoming Twp., about a half mile northeast of Grandville.

KENT COUNTY TRIVIA

To the history buff who likes to study--or learn more about Kent County, the following information should prove interesting--if not exciting.

The following bits of information were taken from books that I obtained at the library, the various reference books that I possess, postal archives, various reports written about individual towns, stettlements, hamlets, cities, etc.

To put it into the proper prospective, probably my information (and I'm being generous) represents about one-tenth of 1% of the trivia that is available.

So with that in mind, let's proceed:

When one talks about early Kent County, the importance of railroads cannot be understated. To give you even 5% of the facts on railroads in Kent County would take several pages, at least. But to overlook them would be a travesty. So here is what I have on railroads:

RAILROADS IN KENT COUNTY IN 1872

1. Chicago & Lake Shore Railroad (Grand Rapids Division).
2. Detroit, Lansing & Lake Michigan Railroad.
3. Detroit & Milwaukee
4. Grand Rapids, Greenville & Alpena
5. Grand Rapids & Indiana
6. Grand Rapids, Newaygo & Lake Shore Railroad
7. Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway
8. Michigan Central (Grand River Valley Division)

To show the things changed over a short period of time, the following is a listing of RAILROADS IN KENT COUNTY IN 1898:

1. Chicago & West Michigan
2. Detroit & Milwaukee
3. Detroit, Grand Rapids & Western (Pere Marquette)
4. Detroit, Grand Rapids & Western (Saginaw Division)
5. Detroit & Northern
6. Grand Rapids & Indiana (Between Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo)
7. Grand Rapids & Indiana (Muskegon Branch)
8. Grand Rapids & Indiana (Northern Division)
9. Lake Shore & Michigan Southern (Kalamazoo Division)
10. Lowell & Hastings

11. Michigan Central (Grand Rapids Division)
12. Toledo, Saginaw & Muskegon

There were alot of changes the next few years--especially with in introduction of the Electric Railway. Here is how the county stacked up in 1907: (the 1st ER in Kent was 1902)

1. Grand Rapids & Indiana (Northern Division)
2. Grand Rapids & Indiana (Southern Division)
3. Grand Trunk (Detroit , Grand Haven & Milwaukee Division)
4. Grand Trunk (Toledo, Saginaw & Muskegon Division)
5. Lake Shore & Michigan Southern (Grand Rapids Branch)
6. Michigan Central (Grand Rapids Division)
7. Pere Marquette
 - a. LaCross to Grand Rapids
 - b. Grand Rapids to Bay View
 - c. Detroit to Grand Rapids & Ottawa Beach
 - d. Saginaw to Elmdale

Electric Railways (commonly called "inter-urbans")

8. Grand Rapids, Grand Haven & Muskegon
9. Grand Rapids, Holland & Chicago

I was going to list the way the county stood (regardin railroads) in 1916 and 1933, but if I did--and did not cut down on other trivia--this in itself could turn into a book. So this should suffice to show what a great influence that railroads had in the building of our county. Oh, by the way, I am not a real railroad buff. I can just imagine a "real railroader" coming up to me and saying, "what about so and so railroad?" I could have missed one or two but I meticulously checked the maps--so I should have gotten most of them.

Incorporated villages in Kent County in

1899--8
1907--10
1916--8
1933--7
1949--7

Incorporated cities in Kent Cty.

1899--1
1907--1
1916--1
1933--1
1949--3 (EGR, GR & ROCKFORD)

It is interesting to note that the following villages were NOT incorporated, as of 1949: (either as a city or village): Ada, Alto, Belmont, Byron Center, Comstock Park, Wyoming (or Wyoming Park).

VOTING

KENT COUNTY (CONT)

PAGE 3

The qualifications to vote in Kent County (as well as throughout Michigan) were as follows: (that is, in 1899):

1. Be a citizen
2. If you were a woman you could vote--but only at school elections
3. Be a state resident at least 6 months
4. Those who were excluded from voting were:
 - a. Indians under tribal rule
 - b. Duelists and abettors

EDUCATION

The people of MICHIGAN weren't all bad, in former days. And we didn't have the huge amount of crime that plagues us today. The great people from our great State, had a simple code of ethics. Take education, for example. Let me quote Section 1 of our State Constitution as revised to 1916:

ARTICLE XI, Section 1

"Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

Goodness, where did we stray?

NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers have played a big part in our community, going way, way back. But my records only go back to 1899. So here are the statistics on newspapers in Kent County, in 1899:

There 35 different newspapers that were registered in 1899. Most of the were weeklies. The dailies were:

1. Evening Press
2. Grand Rapids Democrat
3. Grand Rapids Herald
4. Michigan Artisan

In 1907, the Newspaper situation had changed, but just a little. There were 36 publications, and most were Weeklies. The Dailies were:

1. Dailey News
2. Evening Press
3. Herald

In 1933, when the Depression was settling in, most of the Newspapers folded, right? Not really. There were 48 publications, still most of them Weeklies. The Grand Rapids papers

were (there still were no Dailies outside of Grand Rapids):

1. Herald
2. News
3. Press

NOTE: I have accumulated a huge amount of trivia on Kent County, but I just will not room for all of it. I had planned to list the population by twps, starting in 1845 thru 1933 (with 5 to 6 year spans, former postmasters, etc. But I just do not have room

TOWNSHIP TRIVIA. Just a little trivia on twps in KENT COUNTY, taken from an 1872 Atlas:

ADA. Hon. Lucius B. Lyon was its founder. Ada got off to a rough start. Lyon became deeply involved in the 1837 Panic. His backer, an Eastern investor by the name of M.A. Bronson, became the possessor of the village. He died almost immediately and his estate went to an infant heir. Thus it was "locked up" for more than 20 years. People who had bought lots could not obtain title, etc. Sidney and Lucius Smith were agents for Lyons. They came in 1836 (Rix Robinson had arrived here first, way back in 1821.) (but he did not stay permanently--then). But getting back to Smiths, Sidney had a favorite daughter whose first name was Ada. Chapel was in ADA Township.

ALGOMA. In 1845, there were 233 residents. Smith Lapham came there in 1843 from Washtenaw County. ROCKFORD was organized in 1849. Lapham was its first sup'r. Towns included Burch's Mill, Edgerton, Algoma & Reeds (I'm just listing the towns that no longer exist).

ALPINE. It had 500 residents in 1850. By 1870 it had increased to 1,455. Founded in 1848, its first supervisor was Edward Wheeler. Here are the towns that were there (now dead) in 1872: Alpine, Englishville, Pleasant, Ballard's, Brick Tavern, Ula.

BOWNE. It had 214 residents in 1850. By 1870, 1,275. Jonathan Thomas bought land there in 1836 and moved there with his family. Roswell C. Tyler was its first sup'r. The twp. was formed in 1848. Dead towns that were active then were Bowne, Harris Creek, Keller, and Logan.

BYRON. Nathan Boynton was the first settler in 1835. His 2 brothers came the next year. Byron Twp. was organized in 1836. The first sup'r was Gideon A. Allen. Towns included Buck Creek, North Byron, Byron RR Station and West Carlisle. Byron and Wyoming Twps. were comined at first. In 1845 they had a combined total of 852. The population of Byron Twp. was 1,504 in 1873. Ross was also a town.

CALEDONIA. The first settler was Asahel Kent. He settled on the "Gull trail" in Section 35 in 1838. The twp. was set off from ADA in 1840. John P. McNaughton was its first sup'r. The twp. had few residents in 1840 but by 1873 it had 1,680. Towns included Alaska, Caledonia Station, LaBarge and North Brownville.

CANNON. This was originally combined with Plainfield Twp. Andrew Watson and A. D. W. Stout were the first settlers, in 1837. The township was organized in 1845. Andrew Watson was elected sup'r. There were 290 residents of the twp. in 1845. Towns included Bostwick, Bostwick Lake, Chauncey, Cannonsburg, and North Cannon.

CASCADE. This township's first settler was Lewis Cook, probably in 1835. His brother-in-law came the next year, Hiram Laraway. Peter Whitney came from Ohio in 1840. The twp. was organized in 1848 (as the twp. had been part of Ada the previous 10 years). Peter Teeple was its first sup'r. It had about 350 residents in 1850. Some towns in the 1870s were Cascade, Whitneyville, Lyman, and McCords.

COURTLAND. It was organized in 1839 and it included six congressional twps. Barton Johnson was the first settler in the area in 1838. Soon others followed. At one time, Oakfield and Courtland Twps. were erected into one, and known as Wabasis, by legislative error. In 1873 it had a population of 1,237. Its first supervisor was Wm. H. Myers. A few towns in the 1870s were Corinth, Cortland, Cortland Center and Sheffield.

GAINES. Alexander Clark settled in the north part of Gaines Twp. in the spring of 1836. The twp. was originally organized with Paris Twp. in 1839. In April, 1848, the twp. was organized under Gaines. Peter Van Lew was its first sup'r. In 1850, Gaines had a population of 319 residents. Now folks, you will think that I have made a big blunder, but here is what the Atlas states: "Cannonsburg is the principal business center of the township, and is as old as the town (ship)." It included Buena Vista and Cannon as parts of the twp. There must have been some kind of error, as Cascade and Ada Twps. are between Gaines and Cannon. So please try to be as understandable as possible--as the old records not not always reliable.

CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS. Much, much could be said here. But just a few remarks: it had a population of 2,669 in 1850. 8,085 in 1860, and 16,507 by 1870. The Atlas predicts "by 1900 it ill increase to 100,00." More could be written, but there are many, many books that can be obtained about Grand Rapids, should anyone be interested.

GRAND RAPIDS (Township). The only town (post office) that I could identify as being in Grand Rapids Twp. (other than Grand Rapids) was Soldiers Home. By the way, the first sup'r was Rix Robinson. Louis Campau, Barney Burton and Luther Lincoln were appointed Commissioners of Highways.

GRATTAN. It was originally part of Vergennes Twp. It was intended to have the new twp. named Churchtown, but do some error by the Legislature, it ended up Grattan. As many settlers were from Ireland, this plrase them okay as Grattan was a distinguished, Irish orator of the day. In 1850, Grattan had about 600 inhabitants. By 1870 it had more than doubled, with 1,297. John Nixon was chosen as its first sup'r (in 1846). A few of the towns were Ashley (it was also partly in Oakfield), Grant, Grattan, Parnell and Slayton.

LOWELL. The township goes way back to the late 1820s when Daniel Marsac came from Detroit. Rix Robinson had set up a trading post nearby in 1821. It is reported that the first school in the county was organized in 1838 and taught by Miss Caroline Beard. The township was organized in 1838. Rodney Robinson was its first sup'r. By the way, Lowell and Vergennes Twps. were one until the spring of 1848. So the real first sup'r of Lowell Twp., as we now know it, was Cyprian S. Hooker. Segwan, on the south side of the Grand River is about the only town (other than Lowell natch) in the twp. Lowell Twp. had a little over 200; in 1873, it had grown to 3,800.

NELSON. The Atlas starts out by stating "Nelson is comparatively a new town(ship)." It goes on to say that Nelson Twp. was without inhabitants in 1850. Apparently the first white settler was William A. Bailey in 1851. In Oct. 1854 the township was organized and George Hoyle was elected its first supervisor. In 1870 it had 2 shingle mills. About a third of the village of Cedar Springs was in Nelson Twp. in 1873. The only 2 towns were Lockwood and Nelson.

OAKFIELD. The first white settler in the township was Hon. William R. Davis, who settled in Section 19. At one time, Oakfield was included in 5 other townships situated to the west and north of it. Later it was organized with Courtland as Wabasis Township, but in 1849 it became independent. Its first supervisor (when it became what it is today) (in 1849) was Thomas Spencer. Around 1845 to 1850 few people lived in the twp. but by 1870, its population had risen to 1,092. Towns inside its borders included Ashley (it was also partly in Grattan Twp), Gould's Mills, Harvard, Lincoln Lake, Oakfield,

Oakfield Center, and White Swan. There are about 25 lakes in the twp. By the way, there was a small settlement, near the center of the twp., called Podunk.

PARIS. This township, together with Lowell and Ada Townships, were about the first settlements in Kent County (along with Grand Rapids, of course). According to the Atlas "it is claimed that Joel, Edward and Daniel Guild, Barney Burton, and James Vanderpool first located within the town limits in 1833." The Atlas does not state the date the twp. was organized but it is believed that it was in the late 1830s. It does mention that the first town(ship) meeting was held in the home of H. H. Allen. Joel Guild was elected its first sup'r. Gaines twp. was also part of Paris twp. The population (including Gaines) was 521 in 1850. Apparently the twps. separated in about 1845 or 1850. In 1870 its population was 1,543. Some towns in the township included Bowen, Crosby, East Paris, Oakdale Park and Paris.

PLAINFIELD. It is reported that the George Miller family were the first to locate in Plainfield Twp., in 1837. By the way, it was reported under LOWELL that LOWELL had the first school house, in 1838--but PLAINFIELD apparently was right behind them as they too constructed a schoolhouse later in the same year. The first supervisor elected was Zeneas Winsor, in the spring of 1838. Towns were Austerlitz, Childs Mills (railroad station), and Mill Creek. Its population was about 1500 in 1870. The Atlas states "there are no villages of significant size in the township."

SOLON. The Atlas starts out "Solon is one of the newer subdivisions of Kent County." In the year 1857, the twp. was separated from Algoma Twp. The Beals family and J. M. Rounds settled the area first in 1854. In 1857 it held its first elections and Edward Jewell was elected supervisor. In 1860, its population was 393. In 1870, it had grown to 916. Other than Cedar Springs there weren't too many towns. One was Velzy.

SPARTA. The first settler who came to this twp., with the intent of building a house there, was Clark Brown, in 1844. The first town (ship) meeting was held in Clark Brown's home in 1846. In its first election, Lewis W. Purdy was chosen sup'r. Tyrone Twp. was still included in Sparta Twp. until 1855. Towns included Englishville (also partly in Alpine Twp.), Lisbon and Sparta Center. Its population in 1850 (which included Tyrone Twp.) was about 300 residents. By the early 1870s, (just Sparta Twp.) had grown to 1,587.

SPENCER. This was one of the last twps. to be settled--and organized into a township. In fact, the Atlas states: "Spencer can not boast of any villages and without railroad connections to the outer world." The population was 662 in 1874. (by the way, in checking other sources, I found that it had 1302 pop. in 1894, 1185 in 1900, 1051 in 1904 and 1016 in 1910). When the twp. held its first meeting in 1861, Freeman Van Wickle was elected as its first supervisor. Although there weren't many settlements in the early 1870s, shortly later there were Spencer's Mills, Braceville, Celsus, Dickson, Grahamville, and Griswold.

TYRONE. The first twp. meeting was held in 1855. Elected supervisor was Uriah Chubb. The Atlas states "although but twenty years since the first attempt to subdue the unbroken wilderness, the town(ship) can show really fine farms." Casnovia and Tyrone Station were the only towns mentioned. But another was Ball Creek.

VERGENNES. Sylvester Hodges was its first settler in 1836. The township was organized in 1838, and included Grattan. Rodney Robinson was its first sup'r. Early towns included Alton, Fallassburg and Vergennes.

WALKLER. It was organized in 1838. Early towns included Eagle Mills, Indian Creek, Kinney, Loomisville, N. GR, and Walker. Lovell Moore was elected its first sup'r.

WYOMING. At first (from 1836 to 1848) it was part of Byron Twp. Early settlers were David Tucker and Gideon H. Gordon. In 1848, its first sup'r was Wm. R. Goodwin. It was one of the first areas settled. Its pop. in 1850 was 543. By 1873 it was 2,008.

MICHIGAN TRIVIA

Mackinac Island has nearly as much history behind it as any other area in the United States. It was visited by Jean Nicolet 142 years before the American Revolution (in 1634) and it was captured by the British in the War of 1812. It has been ruled by the British, France, and of course, the U.S. It was the fourth town in Michigan to be awarded a post office. (The other three are Detroit, Monroe and Apple Creek (but it not positively known if Apple Creek ever had a post office)).

Free Soil was named for the political party, which bears its name. As you may recall, in the mid to late 1840s, people were concerned about slavery being introduced to our rapidly expanding West. The Whig party, which also opposed slavery, was dying out. So a new and short-lived party sprang up.

Snow played a part in the naming of 5 towns--sort of. There was a Snow in Berrien County; a Snowflake in Antrim County; a Snow Praire in Branch County and a Snow's Landing in Wayne County. But the fifth "snow"--Snowtown in Newaygo County, was named after John F. Snow, who bought a sawmill and a dam in 1857.

One of the state's greater ironies occurred in a small town in the Upper Peninsula, Matchwood. This small community was founded by the Diamond Match Company in the late 1880s. The village, which was going great guns, was nearly destroyed by a fire in 1893. Undaunted, Matchwood rebuilt--and in 1906 it was done in as another fire devastated it.

There were 19 towns, cities, etc., in Michigan that began with Van. Oddly, none of those towns were in Ottawa or Kent Counties, which have a large Dutch population.

Keewanaw Bay Community is the largest Indian Reservation in Michigan. It has 15,738 acres.

By the way, more towns start with "New" than any other word. But "north", "south", "east" and "west" are close, with about 60 (former) towns that start with the "directions." (There are (or were) 67 towns that begin with "new.")

There was a Manitou County in Michigan until 1895. It consisted of North Manitou Island, South Manitou Island and Beaver Island. In 1895, North and South Manitous became part of Leelanau County and Beaver Island was incorporated into Charlevoix County.

Selfridge Air Force Base was the first military air base in Michigan. It was established in 1917. It was named for Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, who was the first American soldier killed in a military air death. He was killed in 1909 (he was, of course a non-combat victim). Interestingly, Orville Wright was injured in that same crash.

Some may be surprised to find that Detoit was the territorial captital of Michigan from 1805-1837 and and state capital from 1837 to 1847.

Dr. J. P. Tustin, for whom Tustin, Mi. is named, really got around. Dr. Tustin, who was a medical missionary, also had towns named for him in Wisconsin and California.

Selecting a town name in the period from about 1840 to 1900 must have been a fun time, as post offices sprung up much like mushrooms. Lots of towns took their names from the area;s first settler, who quite often became postmaster. But to some, who arrived later and wanted to be known for posterity, it was a serious business. Take Henry Cooper, for example. Cooper, who had moved to west Michigan from Utica, N.Y., wanted so badly to have is name immortalized that he offered the railroad, which was quite influential in those days, all the land it needed (that he had, which was substantial) if he could be guaranteed to have his name included in the town name. So Polkton (named for President James K. Polk) became Coopersville.

There once was a Michigan, Michigan. From April 27, 1847, to April 28, 1848, Lansing was officialy called that (oh I would love to have an envelope from there!!!!). The legislature renamed it, after its township.

So that is how Lansing got its name. But not all names of towns, hamlets, cities, settlements, etc.. arrived at their names that way. That leads us to some rather humorous accounts. In a classic case, we need to go to a small settlement in Oceana County. What has to be the most hilarious naming of a community,, here is how Whiskey Creek reportedly got its name: George Stuart, a grocer, was a man of foresight. While preparing for a long, hard winter in the Fall of 1856, he laid away one barrel of whiskey, thinking that the locals might need to warm up their insides. Now George was a wise old feller who lived over a small creek running through his property. He sold three barrels of whiskey during the winter and still had two left come springtime. The locals felt that the creek had someting to do with it and hence the name, Whiskey Creek.

Probably the second funniest story on the naming of communities, is how Colon got its name (this being a rather sensitive subject, I promise all discretion will be attempted). Some of the founders of this small commuity in St. Joseph County, were John and William Bowman. Lorensie Schellhouse, who became its postmaster in 1836, prior to that was grouping for a suitable name. It is reported that Mr. Schellhouse, either a gambler or close to it, took a dictionary and opened it at random. Staring him in the face was the word "colon." He exclaimed, "I've got the name for our community. We will call it Colon as the lake and river correspond exactly to the shape of a colon."

Kent County 6 Study of Settlements 1850-1910

Ackley	Ezekiel		y	7	Bartman	J S		y	19
Ackley			y	18	Baxter	Milo		y	14
Adams			y	14	Beach	Justus		y	25
Adams			y	14	Beach	Justus		y	26
Addison			y	18	Beadle	DeWitt C		y	17
Adis	Freeman		y	31	Beals		family	y	45
Alexander	John M		y	18	Beamer	J A		y	12
Alfred	M W	Dr	y	27	Beard	Caroline		y	44
Allen	Gideon A		y	43	Beatty	Wm		y	18
Althen	Chas		y	17	Becker	G		y	15
Amond	Godfrey		y	14	Beechler	Geo		y	17
Anderson	J H		y	15	Beers	Philo		y	28
Andrus	W P		y	14	Bellamy	Edward S		y	31
Ashley	Sheldon		y	24	Benedict	E R		y	14
Atherton			y	14	Benedict	J O		y	14
Atkins			y	17	Benedict			y	14
Austin	L H		y	17	Bennett	Cornelius Y		y	6
Austin	Lyman H		y	32	Bennett	Daniel D		y	27
Avery	Earl		y	17	Bentley	J		y	15
Avery	Homer		y	17	Berridge	John		y	18
Avery	Orrin		y	18	Berridge	Jonathan		y	18
Ayers	Augustus C		y	14	Birkhart	Jacob		y	14
Babcock	B F		y	19	Black	William		y	14
Badger			y	14	Blackmer	R		y	14
Bailey	Bradford		y	14	Blair	Avery B		y	17
Bailey	William		y	33	Blakely	Charles E		y	18
Bailey	William A		y	44	Blakely	Russell		y	18
Baker	John		y	14	Blakeslee	Chas D		y	17
Balcom	Geo B		y	17	Bliss	Ed		y	18
Balcom	J M		y	19	Boaver			y	18
Balkins	E		y	13	Boington	E		y	19
Ballard			y	25	Bookey			y	14
Barber	L M	Rev	y	12	Borgy	F		y	13
Barber	Milton C		y	17	Bostwick	E B		y	25
Barber	O B		y	13	Bostwick	E B		y	37
Barber	Ramey		y	17	Bouck	Alexander		y	30
Barber	Warren		y	14	Bowen			y	28
Barclay	Abraham C		y	29	Bowers	John		y	34
Barker	Thomas N		y	14	Bowman	John		y	50
Barker			y	14	Bowman	William		y	50
Barkley	Wellington		y	14	Boyce			y	17
Barman	Edwin		y	15	Boynton	Donald		y	31
Barnes	James		y	15	Boynton	Nathan		y	43
Barnes			y	14	Boynton		bro	y	43
Bartian	David		y	14	Bpwem			y	28
					Brace	Elisha		y	26
					Brace	Hiram		y	14
					Bradford	E		y	19
					Bradley	Herman J		y	17
					Bramer	Henry		y	18
					Britton	D C		y	16

Bronson	W A	Rev	y	16	Clark	Fred W	y	13	
Brown	Clark		y	45	Clark	Frederick S	y	28	
Brown	Sarah E		y	18	Clark	James D	y	14	
Brown	William		y	24	Clipper	C S	y	14	
Brown	Wm C		y	17	Clute		y	13	
Brown			y	13	Cobern	R H	y	14	
Brown			y	15	Cody	family	y	28	
Brown			y	17	Coffee	John	y	34	
Bryant	S O		y	16	Coffin	Alexander	y	15	
Buck	Curtis		y	14	Coffinberry	A B	y	36	
Buckingham	H		y	12	Cogshall	Henry	Rev	y	14
Buell	William M	Rev	y	12	Cohn		y	13	
Buell	Wm		y	16	Cole	M J	y	19	
Burch	D W C		y	18	Comstock	Charles C	y	37	
Burch	Jefferson		y	26	Cone		y	17	
Burns	Thos		y	17	Conklin	Dubois	y	35	
Burt	B E		y	17	Cook	Lewis	y	43	
Burton	Barney		y	26	Cook	Stephen	y	17	
Burton	Barney		y	29	Cook		y	19	
Burton	Barney		y	44	Coon		y	15	
Burton	Barney		y	45	Cooper	Henry	y	50	
Byrme	M		y	16	Coppen		y	18	
Cain	James		y	15	Corbin	Hirman	y	13	
Calkins	H T		y	19	Comes	William H	y	18	
Calkins	L W		y	19	Cornwell	L G	y	19	
Camp	Edward P		y	13	Covert	John L	y	12	
Camp	Edward P		y	26	Cowden	R	y	12	
Campau	Louis		y	37	Cowdin	Chas	y	18	
Campau	Louis		y	44	Cowin	James S	y	18	
Campbell			y	13	Cowles	Shepard B	y	27	
Cannon	LeGrand		y	25	Cox	E	y	17	
Cannon	Legrand		y	37	Crabb		y	18	
Carlson	J T		y	12	Crammer	James M	y	18	
Carr			y	14	Creamer	Ths	y	19	
Carter			y	14	Crippen	Warren	y	15	
Chamberlain	C L		y	14	Crippen	Warren S	y	30	
Chapel			y	18	Crocker	Noah W	y	35	
Chapel			y	27	Crompton	James	y	18	
Chapel			y	43	Crosby		y	28	
Chapman	Clara	Mrs	y	17	Culbertson	John	y	19	
Chapman	Edwin		y	17	Culbertson	John	y	19	
Chapman	I M	Rev	y	17	Culver	Orris	y	18	
Chappel	Geo		y	14	Cummings	Edwin	Rev	y	15
Chester	Elisha		y	14	Cutler	Johnson	M/M	y	28
Childs	H B		y	28	Daley	H	y	16	
Chipman	Walter		y	13	Danford	M W	y	14	
Chubb	Uriah		y	45	Dansforth	William	y	18	
Church	Christians		y	12	Davies	Edwin N	y	18	
Cilley	E H		y	13	Davis	John	y	36	
Clark	Alexander		y	30	Davis	William R	y	33	
Clark	Alexander		y	44	Davis	William R	y	44	

Davis			y	15	Fox	George		y	12
Davis			y	16	Francisco	Henry D		y	17
Dawson			y	12	French	Geo		y	17
Day	Levi		y	16	French	Geo		y	18
Dean	Alexander		y	28	French	W W	Dr	y	7
Dean	Miles		y	33	Freudenthaler	Christian		y	14
Denison	H C		y	14	Freudenthaler			y	14
Dennison	Wm		y	19	Freyermuth	Chas		y	33
DeYoung			y	16	Fulkerson	Lou		y	27
Dickens	Erastus		y	19	Fulkerson			y	14
Dickerson	Jerome		y	19	Furman	J W		y	16
Dodds			y	19	Gable	Jacob		y	12
Dunnett	Milton		y	19	Gaddis			y	17
Durfee	M J		y	17	Godwin	William P		y	37
Durham	A J		y	16	Gooden			y	12
Eardley	James A		y	29	Goodwin	Wm R		y	45
Eddy	Chas		y	16	Gordon	Gideon H		y	45
Eddy			y	13	Gotshall	Geo M		y	18
Edge	Matthew		y	6	Gould	James E		y	31
Edgerton		family	y	29	Gould	Nathan H		y	33
Elkins	L A		y	16	Graham	C		y	17
Ellis	Ira		y	14	Graham	Philander		y	31
Ellsworth	A M		y	17	Grant	John		y	6
Emmons	E C		y	19	Gray	Jonathan H		y	33
English	Joseph S		y	29	Green			y	17
English	Richard		y	15	Grieb	George		y	13
English	S		y	15	Griswold	Alonzo		y	31
English	William		y	15	Griswold	J		y	19
Espees	John		y	15	Griswold	John		y	31
Evarts	Nathan		y	28	Gritter	J		y	16
Fairchild	D A		y	17	Guild	Daniel		y	29
Fallas	J Wesley		y	30	Guild	Daniel		y	45
Fallashburgh			y	30	Guild	Edward		y	29
Fallass	C W		y	15	Guild	Edward		y	45
Fallass	J W		y	15	Guild	Joel		y	27
Fallass	S S		y	15	Guild	Joel		y	29
Farnham	John		y	32	Guild	Joel		y	45
Fawcett	John	Rev	y	13	Hale	Eugene F		y	12
Ferris			y	12	Hale	Warren S		y	12
Field	Charles E		y	5	Hall	A		y	18
Fisher	Davod		y	30	Hallock	J H	Rev	y	19
Fisher	J W		y	12	Hamilton	Angeline	Mrs	y	14
Fisk	Wm H		y	19	Hamilton	Harmon		y	14
Flanagan			y	12	Hamilton			y	14
Fletcher			y	18	Hamling	A D		y	12
Forbes	Catherine	Mrs	y	14	Hammond	Stephen A		y	29
Ford	A B		y	16	Hammond			y	17
Ford	A B		y	16	Haner			y	18
Ford	A S		y	12	Hanes	Adam		y	18
Ford	Abel		y	13	Hanna	Alexander		y	14
Foster	Norman		y	26	Hanna			y	14

Hard	F F		y	13	Johnson	Barton		y	44
Harris	John		y	31	Johnson	Charles F		y	1
Harrison	Fred W		y	9	Johnson	Charles F		y	39
Harrison	Fred W		y	31	Johnson	E R		y	14
Hartwell			y	14	Johnson	E R		y	14
Haven	Blake		y	16	Jones	John S		y	33
Haviland	D S		y	12	Jones	P P		y	14
Hayward	Edward	& bro	y	14	Jones	Russell		y	13
Hazelwood	George H		y	29	Jones	Sam		y	14
Heading	N F		y	13	Jones			y	13
Heath			y	18	Jorton	William		y	33
Hemling	M D		y	12	Joslin	B D		y	12
Hentig	Frank M		y	14	Joyce			y	14
Hickcock	H P		y	19	Judson	G W		y	19
Hicks	Robbin		y	37	Judson			y	18
Hill	Egbwert B		y	24	Kavanaugh	James		y	14
Hills	A H		y	12	Keller	Christian		y	13
Hine	M B		y	13	Keller	Christian		y	32
Hine	M B		y	17	Kellogg	Francis W		y	31
Hinman	Chas		y	19	Kellogg	George W		y	32
Hoag	L D		y	14	Kellogg			y	31
Hoag			y	18	Kent	Asahel		y	27
Hodge	Sylvester		y	35	Kent	Asahel		y	43
Hodges	Sylvester		y	45	Kent County	Pere Marquette		y	1
Holcomb	W V		y	14	Kidder	Charles S		y	14
Holt	C F		y	14	Kidder	M C		y	15
Holt	Nelson D		y	14	Kilgore	Alex		y	32
Hooker	Cyprian S		y	44	Kindman	W E		y	19
Hooper	L		y	15	King	C	Rev	y	19
House	Andrew		y	29	Kinney	John		y	32
House	C S		y	14	Kinsey	David		y	27
House	Lapham		y	18	Klingensmith	Sarah A		y	7
House	Noble		y	19	Knaggs	Hezekiah		y	7
House	Ohio		y	18	Knowles	J A		y	16
House	Oscar		y	15	Kromer	G C	Mrs	y	14
Howard	Robert		y	16	Kutts	Clare		y	28
Hyde			y	18	Kutts	Frank		y	18
Hyde			y	18	Lacey	John H		y	14
Hylar	William		y	14	Landheer	John		y	34
Hyser	William		y	13	Lapham	Embree B		y	18
Irish	Hemin		y	14	Lapham	Smith		y	18
Irons	William	Rev	y	14	Lapham	Smith		y	24
Jackson	Marquis L		y	25	Lapham	Smith		y	37
Jackson	Robert S		y	29	Lapham	Smith		y	43
Jackson	Robert S		y	30	Laraway	Hiram		y	43
Jackson	Roger S		y	27	LeBar			y	18
Jackson		Brothers	y	12	Leibler	J A		y	13
Jarvis	Morris		y	18	Leland	Aaron		y	18
Jenniss	Clara	Mrs	y	16	Lewis	Charles H		y	34
Johnson	Barton		y	28	Lincoln	Luther		y	37
Johnson	Barton		y	30	Lincoln	Luther		y	44

Linsley	L S		y	16	Nicolet	Jean		y	46
Lockwood	James A		y	32	Niehans	H		y	12
Loger	Henry		y	14	Niles		Rev	y	19
Loomis	Andrew		y	32	Nixon	John		y	44
Loop	Cogshall		y	19	North	Daniel		y	37
Lunn	Jos		y	18	Norton	E W		y	19
Luton	John		y	8	Olmstead	W I		y	19
Luton	John		y	19	Pangborn	Elisha		y	33
Lyon	Lucius B		y	43	Parker			y	18
Lyon			y	37	Parnell	charles Stewart		y	34
Madison	R L		y	16	Paul	Wm W		y	34
Malone	Thomas		y	14	Peck	H B		y	13
Manley	Joseph L		y	32	Peck			y	13
Manlitz	E		y	16	Pelton	Alfred		y	18
Marsac	Daniel		y	37	Petrie	James		y	17
Marsac	Daniel		y	44	Phillips	B F		y	16
Mason	J E		y	31	Phillips	J E		y	16
McClure	O P		y	19	Phillips	Levi		y	15
McCords		family	y	33	Pice	B M		y	13
McCoy	Isaac		y	37	Pierce	Chas		y	17
McCoy			y	16	Pintler	John		y	32
McDonald	A		y	15	Plumb	E		y	18
Mcdonald	Andrew		y	28	Pollard	A F	Rev	y	17
McGhee	B		y	12	Pollock	John		y	13
McNaughton	Donald		y	27	Porter	Chauncey		y	27
McNaughton	Dougal		y	27	Porter	W N		y	17
McNaughton	John P		y	43	Post	Isaac		y	13
McNaughton	Peter D		y	27	Powell	O F		y	16
McQueen			y	17	Powell	S	& son	y	16
Mead	S D		y	12	Preston			y	15
Mead	Thaddeus		y	6	Purdy	Lewis W		y	45
Meddler	J		y	12	Race	Frank		y	15
Medler	W J		y	17	Race	Walter		y	15
Mesnard	Andrew		y	28	Rawson			y	14
Meyers	Joseph		y	13	Raymond			y	19
Miller	E C		y	12	Reed	Fred	Rev	y	13
Miller	George		y	45	Resch	Chas		y	12
Miller	Louis		y	13	Reynolds	J M		y	13
Miller			y	18	Rice	R		y	12
Miner			y	14	Richards	R F		y	19
Mintler	J		y	18	Richards			y	37
Moore	Lovell		y	45	Richardson	A J		y	13
Morris	M	Rev	y	15	Ring	Edmund		y	12
Munro	C H		y	15	Roberts	James	Rev	y	15
Murphy	James A		y	6	Robinson	David N		y	36
Murphy	John		y	14	Robinson	George		y	6
Myers	Wm H		y	44	Robinson	Rix		y	43
Nash	Jonathan P		y	35	Robinson	Rix		y	44
Nash	M B		y	19	Robinson	Rodney		y	30
Nash	M B		y	19	Robinson	Rodney		y	35
Nash			y	17	Robinson	Rodney		y	44

Robinson		y	17	Stave	Union	y	13	
Roos	A	y	19	Steele	Nathaniel	y	25	
Ross	Daniel	y	34	Stegman	F C	y	15	
Ross	William	y	34	Stimson	C H	y	13	
Rounds	J M	y	45	Stinson		y	18	
Rowe		y	6	Stout	A D W	y	43	
Rowley		y	18	Stroup	Henry	y	35	
Ruby	George	y	14	Stuart	George	y	50	
Russell	H C	y	14	Sullivan	James T	y	34	
Russell	Huntley	y	35	Swift	M Lewis	y	18	
Salisbury	Robert L	y	38	Talman	J C	y	14	
Saunders	George T	y	15	Taplain	W T	y	15	
Saunders	N D	y	15	Taylor	Roswell C	y	26	
Schellhouse	Lorensie	y	50	Teeple	Peter	y	43	
Schoolcraft	Henry Rowe	y	6	Thomas	A D	y	17	
Scott	E H	y	7	Thomas	A D	y	17	
Scott	Mary Enid	y	7	Thomas	Abner D	y	13	
Scudder	Henry W	y	34	Thomas	Cyrus B	y	35	
Selfridge	Thomas E	y	46	Thomas	Jonathan	y	26	
Sellers	L M	y	14	Thomas	Jonathan	y	31	
Seward	William	y	24	Thomas	Jonathan	y	43	
Sexton	B	y	19	Thompson	John W	y	25	
Sexton	Bliss	y	13	Thornton	William	y	34	
Shaffer	Abel	y	17	Tradewell	Thomas	y	13	
Shearer	A J	y	12	Trast	J R	y	17	
Sheek	Adam R	y	27	Truax	J H	y	15	
She-gog		y	7	Tryon	F E	y	15	
Shepard	Oscar	y	7	Tucker	David	y	45	
Sherk	A B	y	13	Tully	Patrick M	y	24	
Sherk	A B	y	13	Tustin	J P	Dr	y	50
Shoolmaker	Walter	y	14	Tuttle	George S	y	26	
Siple		y	19	Tyler	E	y	14	
Sipple	Charles	y	34	Tyler	Roswell C	y	43	
Slater	L	Rev	y	16	Vanderpool	James	y	29
Slayton	William E	y	34	Vanderpool	James	y	45	
Smith	Ada	y	43	VanLew	Peter	y	30	
Smith	C R	y	13	VanLew	Peter	y	44	
Smith	Lucius	y	43	VanWickle	Freeman	y	45	
Smith	Sidney	y	43	Watson	Andrew	y	17	
Smutz	Jesse	y	13	Watson	Andrew	y	25	
Snow	John F	y	46	Watson	Andrew	y	43	
Soules	B W	y	19	Wedrig	Allen	y	13	
Spencer	G M	y	17	Weed	James W	y	33	
Spencer	Thomas	y	35	Weitz	George	y	14	
Spencer	Thomas	y	44	Weller	Daniel S T	y	27	
Spore	Judson	y	18	Weller	J S	y	13	
Squier	Milton L	y	14	Weller	John S	y	26	
Stanley	Issac W	y	18	White	C	y	15	
Stanton	F K	y	13	White	Samuel	y	35	
Stark	G P	y	14	White	Walter	y	24	
Stark	Sidney	y	35	White	William C	y	36	

White			y	31
Whitmore	Fred C		y	38
Whitney	Frank		y	13
Wickham			y	37
Wigham	H C		y	12
Wilkins	E		y	13
Wilkinson	C A	& sons	y	18
Willet	Allen		y	15
Wilson	Charles L		y	33
Winsor	Zenas G		y	24
Winsor	Zenas G		y	28
Wisnor	Zeneas		y	45
Woodin	R H		y	19
Woodruff	John		y	28
Woodward	George W		y	29
Woodworth			y	12
Wright	Solomon		y	24
Wylie	Henry C		y	13
Yeateman	Wm		y	17
Young	Dawin		y	14