

NORTH SIDE OF GRAND RIVER STREET, HOWELL, MICH.

A HISTORY
OF THE TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE OF
HOWELL, MICHIGAN

— BY —

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Author of

Judson Vane's Revenge

The Electric Wedding


Phantom of Hallowe'en *

One Large Turnip

Etc., Etc.

HOWELL, MICHIGAN
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Introduction

HE son of pioneers of Howell, my first recollections were associated with early days here. These pioneers are gone. Only a few remain, last leaves clinging to the tree of life. With their departure go the stories of their lives, the foundation period of our local history.

More than twenty years ago when the writer was publishing the Livingston Herald, I conceived the idea of publishing a history of Howell and had the work well under way when that paper was sold. The fire soon after burned up all but one copy.

Nearly four years ago the present work was commenced, the matter running in the Livingston Tidings as fast as prepared. Every possible effort has been made to verify the facts and details, but some errors have crept in. The work of time too, has made some changes in the four years since the first chapters were printed. We believe however that the subject matter is nearly all correct history. It has been an honest effort to preserve that which would otherwise have been lost.

THE AUTHOR

CHAPTER 1

Before the Settlement

That portion of the history of Howell township which is of interest to us is mainly included in the years which have elapsed since the white man found a home here, still no history would be complete without at least a passing glance at the territory when under the domain of the red man alone. This township was border territory between the domains of the Pottawatomies and Saginaw Chippewes although more especially within the territory of the latter tribe. No special feuds seem to have existed between these nations and in fact this territory was little more than their summer hunting ground where temporary villages were erected near which the squaws raised their corn, maize, beans and pumpkins. As fall came on they mostly left this section for their more permanent villages in the vicinity of Flint and Shiawessetown.

The tribe was scattered and badly broken up as a result of their alliance with the English in the war of 1812, and early settlers found only roving bands of the tribe who had been the principal occupants of this territory. According to traditions of the Chippewas, this section was occupied previous to their ownership, by the Sauks, a warlike tribe which was

much hated by them and who were completely destroyed by an alliance of the Chippewas, Pottawattamies and Ottawas, by a series of massacres following a great massacre of their principal village on the Saginaw river, from which only twelve women were spared. The only warriors to escape the tomahawk were a few who fled to their canoes and paddled across the lake. An indian burying ground on the farm of Ira Brayton, probably used by the Sauks was thus described by Elisha H. Smith, in 1868: "On the north-west quarter of section twenty-two there are several places of bural. Judging from the appearance of the mounds where they were interred, they commenced burying their dead at the top of the ground, covering the corpse with earth. They then placed other bodies above this one, until the mound was several feet high. Several of these mounds have been opened for phrenological observation. Their traits of character were found similar to those who lived here at the time of the settlement by the whites. They were buried with their heads in a south-easterly direction. The Indians who lived here at the time the mounds were opened, had no knowledge of them. On the exposure of the bones to the atmosphere, they would soon decompose." The poor Chippewas were in constant dread of the spirits of the exterminated Sauks. If misfortune befel them, if their traps failed to hold the game or if their rifles failed to shoot accurately, it was the spirits of the Sauks and nothing

could they accomplish until the medicine men had been brought and the poor spirits either set at rest or otherwise quieted.

Several Indian trails ran in this section, the most important of which was the Grand River trail which took much the general direction of the gravel road in after years, except that north of this place it bore a little more northerly. A fork of the trail joined it near the present village of Howell, running in from the Indian village near Shiawasseetown. It was mostly along the trail from Detroit that the early pioneers found their way to Howell and neighboring points.

Early claim to this section passed back and fourth with the claims of French and English to Detroit and Michilmackinae. At the close of the Revolution, English officers were instrumental in securing an alliance of most of the Indians of the north-west and an effort was made to hold the territory under English rule. General Antony Wayne was sent with a body of troops, into what is now Ohio and after a few victories, he succeeded in bringing the Indians to terms.

His treaty of Greenville, in 1695, was the first agreement between the United States and Indians, relative to the land which now forms Howell. By this treaty the Indians simply became subjects of the United States, acknowledged their territory a part of the United States, and placed themselves under the protection of this government. In June, 1796, the forts of Detroit and Mackinaw were surrendered and

English rule over this territory ceased except for a short time during the war of 1812. The Northwest Territory embraced this section from that time until 1800 when it became part of the then new territory of Indiana. In 1805 the territory of Michigan was organized and William Hull was made its first governor.

The township of Howell, with all the land in this section of Michigan, was embraced in the territory ceded by the Indians to the United States government by a treaty at Detroit, on November 17th, 1807, and its remaining so long without settlement is no doubt owing to the fact that a government surveyor sent to Michigan in 1815, with an idea of giving one hundred and sixty acres of land to each soldier of the Revolution, reported that "not one acre out of a hundred, if there would be one out of a thousand, that would in any case admit of cultivation." Governor Lewis Cass failed to believe this report and having secured the proper assistance, in 1819 made an exploration which largely quieted the bad impression which prevailed.

Several townships of this county had white settlers before Howell; Putnam leading with the man whose name it bears, in 1828.

This township formed a part of Wayne county, after its organization until January 15, 1818, when it became a part of Macomb county. It was a part of Oakland county from January 12, 1819 until September 10, 1822, when it was placed with Shiawassee county where it remained until the laying out of Livingston county, March 21, 1834, but the organization of this county was not perfected until March 24, 1836.

CHAPTER II

The First Settlement

The year 1833 may almost be set down in this township as a period of exploration. The recently erected but unorganized county drew many parties who went over this township in search of homes. Among these were John D. Pinckney, S. N. Warren, George T. Sage, Moses Thompson, Orman Coe. Checkly S. Palmer, C. C. Trobridge and John J. Eaman. The four last named have the honor of being the first to locate land in the township, the last two selecting eighty acres on section thirty-five and thirty-six respectively, or a part of the present village of Howell. It is in the exploration of Messrs. Pinckney and Sage and their party however that we are most interested as the first settlements in the township resulted from their trip. Mr. Pinckney was an energetic butcher of Hughsonville, N. Y. Not being entirely satisfied with his advantages he determined to emigrate to the then undeveloped west to which his father and brothers had preceded him. A trip by the Erie canal and Lake Erie landed him in Detroit, from where he went to Salem, Washtenaw County, which was then the home of his people. George S. Sage who was upon the same errand as Mr. Pinckney, joined him at his

father's and in company with Mr. Pinckney's brothers they set out together along the Grand River trail, for the new unorganized county of Livingston, as the most promising government territory upon which to build a home. They built a temporary hut with a bark roof, about where the palacial home of Thorne & Farnsworth now stands, and spent a week prospecting. The timber was mostly oak openings and the soil although not so strong as that of heavy timber land, was of good quality and because of the lighter timber, was quicker available to the pioneers for homes. Along the creeks and low places coarse grass grew more luxuriently than after fire had burned over the ground in early day. Often growing to the height of a man's head, to these marshes seeming blemishes upon the face of the country, the pioneers were glad to go for sustenance for their stock, finding them truly blessings in disguise. The beautiful lakes and complete wildness of their surroundings made up a series of picturesque scenery for those early pioneers over which the artists of Howell to-day would go completely wild.

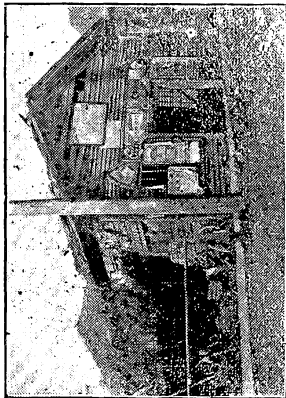
Mr. Sage selected a homestead a little west of their prospector's cabin and Mr. Pinckney one near Thompson's lake at its southeast extremity. After making their minutes of the land selected for themselves and several other tracts, they returned to Salem and Messrs. Pinckney and Sage went at once to the land-office at Detroit, and located their land, after which

they returned to their homes and began active preparations to move to their new land. On May 14th, 1834, Mr. Sage and his father James Sage came with their families and settled upon the land selected by Geo. T. Sage as noted above. James Sage's log house was erected upon the site now occupied by the elegant residence of Wm. McPherson Jr., while George T. Sage's was across the Grand River trail to the south, or nearly in the center of what is now Grand River street. This was the first settlement in the township. Mr. Sage Sr. only lived about five years after settling here. He died June 29th, 1839. The children of James Sage were George T., James R. and Chester A. George T. Sage died in Marion township, August 21, 1852. He was married to Miss Louisa Austin (later Mrs. Rev. G. W. Genks of Brighton,) a short time before settling in Howell. Mrs. Sage's father, David Ausin, and family came from Salem and settled on section 35, on land selected by his son-in-law, in June of 1834. Mr. Austin lived upon his farm until February 1, 1847, when he died. His wife followed her husband about a year afterwards. The oldest son of David Austin, David Jr., did not come to Michigan. Mr. Austin's other children were Johnathan, Louisa, wife of Geo. T. Sage, Melvina, afterwards Mrs. George Sewell, and Sally T., afterwards Mrs. Merritt S. Havens. Johnathan Austin who came with his father, located what is now the Gilks farm and lived there for a long time, but after-

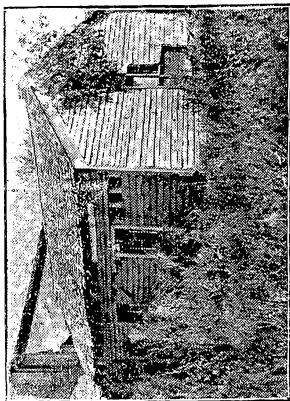
wards moved to the Upper Peninsula, He was very prominent in school and other local matters.

John D. Pinckney settled business matters in the east and bringing his family as far as Salem left them with his people there while he came with two men he had employed, to erect a house for them, and arrived here soon after the others. He was in much better shape financially than most of his contemporaries in Howell, and his capital soon made him very comfortable as compared with those about him although his house was the regulation one room cabin of pioneer days. He brought with him a team of horses, the first to come to this section. His family came on in December of that year. In 1842 Mr. Pinckney moved to the village of Howell, from his farm, and died here Feb. 11, 1861.

The trials to be met and difficulties to be overcome by these first settlers are not to be estimated by us. Occasional trips into new sections of our country at the present day may furnish the basis of an estimate. With ox teams, little capital and very few conveniences of life, they commenced the work of civilizing this wilderness. Elisha H. Smith described the situation in the following words. "The nearest inhabitants from the center of the township, at the settlement of this place, were eighteen miles away. In a westerly direction, it was about forty miles to the nearest settlement. The nearest mills were eighteen miles distant."



RUINS OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Torn Down in 1908.
Built in 1838.



HOWELL'S FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE
Built in 1837.
Still Standing.

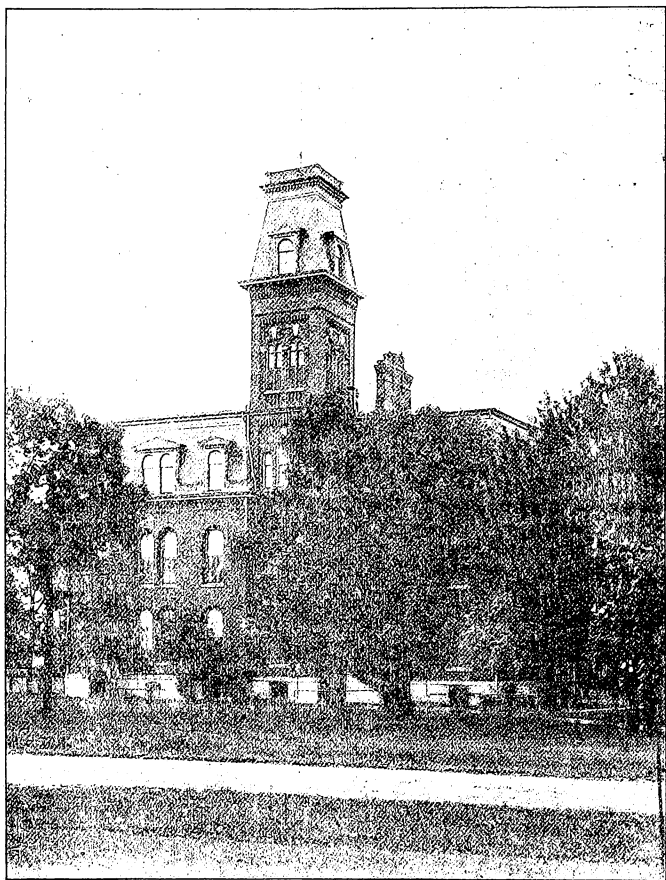
As the year 1833 could be set down as a period of exploration for Howell township, so the year 1835 should be classed as the year of settlement. The rush for homes in the new county was fairly on by opening of spring and the township was full of prospectors and the settlers coming to the land located in the previous two years.

The first new settler was a bouncing boy who came into the home of George T. Sage on January 23, 1835 announcing himself to be the first white child born in the township of Howell. A pointer of the hardships in the life of these early pioneers is a little remembrance of Mrs. John D. Pinckney in connection with the event of Mr. Sage's birth as told by her in after years. Johnathan Austin a brother of Mrs. Sage, was sent to Kensington, after a doctor for the event. Mr. Austin stopped at Mr. Pinckney's to borrow a horse to make the journey but the team were away and he was obliged to go afoot to secure the services of Dr. F. Curtiss of that place, who was physician to every family in Livingston County at that time. It would take a good walker about half a day to make the journey through the January snow, over the Grand River trail, and the doctor nearly the same time to return.

Among the earliest settlers of 1835, to arrive in the township from the east, were Villeroy E., John W. and Elisha H. Smith, three brothers who came from Ontario county, New York, in May of that year. The

last named lived here until quite an old man. For many years he was active in the county pioneer society and took great delight in recounting his experiences in the early days here. He wrote a history of Howell which had quite a local circulation about the time of its publication.

Probably the next to arrive in 1835 was Moses Thompson and Ezra J. Munday. Mr. Thompson with his son Lewis and daughters Rachel, (afterwards Mrs. Houghtaling, later Mrs. Preston) and Lucinda, (Mrs. Ezra Frisbee), left Herkimer County in April, traveled through Canada in a double buggy drawn by the second team of horses brought to Howell, and reached Detroit, on May 25th. The remainder of the family, Mrs. Thompson, Morris, Edward and Maria, Elizabeth and Jane, afterwards Mrs. Clark, Mrs. Slader and Mrs. Crittenden, respectively, with Mr. Munday, left Herkimer County about a month later and after a trip of over a week by the Erie Canal and lake Erie, landed in Detroit, on the 7th of June. Three days later the entire party left Detroit, with their horse team and five yokes of oxen which Mr. Thompson had bought in Detroit. The family stopped several days at Lyon while Mr. Thompson came on and commenced his house. Part of them arrived on June 23 and stopped at Geo. T. Sage's until their own house which stood just up from the bank at the north end of what is now known as Thompson's



CENTRAL SCHOOL

Lake, was ready for them, which was about July 4th. The rest of the family came about that time.

By this time the settlement inside of what is now the village of Howell, or rather the home of John D. Pinckney, had come to be called Livingston Center, and as a matter of almost necessity, Mr. Pinckney's house had come to be almost a hotel for prospectors.

On the 2nd of July, 1835, Alexander Fraser the father of Mrs. Pinckney, sold from the land located by Mr. Pinckney for him, the west half of the southwest quarter and the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 36, to David Wetmore and Edward Brooks of Detroit. Later in the same year, after two or three deeds, the title to these tracts rested one-third in Flavius J. B. Crane and two-thirds in Edward Brooks. These gentlemen proceeded at once to plat this 120 acres into the village of Howell. The old public square was reserved in their plat for public use, it being the idea of the founders of the village to have the county buildings located upon it. The prospective village was named Howell. Mr. Crane cited as his idea for the name, his friend Thomas Howell, son of Judge Howell of Caniudagua, N. Y., but his most intimate friends were sure that Mr. Howell's pretty sister was the real person whose name the town bore. The name of Livingston Center was applied to the village for some years afterward. As noted above, the house of John D. Pinckney had become almost the primitive hotel and Mr. Pinckney

secured a contract from Cane & Brooks that they would erect a hotel upon their plot. Consequently they commenced drawing lumber from Woodruff's saw mill in Green Oak, soon after their plot was recorded, in November, 1835, and erected a two story frame house, 20x40 feet in size, the first in the township, on the site now occupied by the Opera House. On December 1, 1835, Amos Adams came in from Geneseo, N. Y., and opened the hotel under the name of the "Eagle Tavern." F. J. B. Crane, and Alexander Fraser at once became boarders at the tavern who with Mr. Adams' family became the first settlers within the original village plot as it existed before the additions were made.

The Eagle Tavern at once became the center of population for all business matters of the pioneer settlement. It was there that religious services in the township commenced. Alvin Crittenden, a young man afoot and alone, arrived in Howell before a door was hung in the village and on Nov. 24, 1835, hired to Geo. T. Sage for a year. It is largely to remembrances of this pioneer, father of the author of this history, as he was wont to tell them in his latter days and to copious notes of a series of most interesting visits with the late William McPherson sr. that the events herein contained are due. Among others of these remembrances was the story of the first religious services which my father told as follows:

"Deacon Branch who had settled in Marion, thought

he could not live without religious meetings, even in the wilderness, and hence he took it upon himself to commence them. He went to Esquire Adams our noble landlord who kept the hotel in the village—for by this time the house was nearly finished, and Amos Adams occupied it for a hotel—and obtained consent to have religious meetings held in the sitting room. At that time the hotel was the only building in the village. Notice was accordingly given, and on Sabbath morning, I cannot give the date but I think it was in the month of December, 1835, the people assembled, some coming four or five miles, and the sitting room was pretty well filled. Deacon Branch conducted the meeting, reading one of Dr. Payson's sermons. At the close of the services he called for a volunteer to close by prayer. No one came to his help but the deacon was not discouraged and gave notice for a meeting the next Sabbath. On the second Sabbath I volunteered to close the meeting with prayer. Thus it happened that I was the second person who took part in a religious meeting in Howell. After that, if the deacon had to be away from the meeting any Sabbath, he brought to me a volume of Payson's sermons with a request that I should conduct the services which I did several times that year. On one of these occasions I read a sermon from Wesley instead of the one Deacon Branch had selected and he never called upon me to perform the service again."

Several others who afterwards became prominent in

local matters, arrived during that year. Elisha H. Smith in his History of Howell published in 1869, summed up the settlement at the close of 1835, as follows:

Section.		Section.	
Joseph Porter.....	7	Francis Field.....	23
Samuel Waddel.....	17	Moses Thompson.....	25
Whitely Woodruff....	17	Lewis Thompson.....	25
David H. Austin.....	20	Morris Thompson.....	25
Villeroy E. Smith.....	21	Edward Thompson....	25
Elisha H. Smith.....	21	Ezra J. Munday.....	25
Nathaniel Johnson....	23	Amos Adams.....	36
Alvin Crittenden.....	23	F. J. B. Crane.....	36
Merrit S. Havens.....	23	Alexander Fraser.....	36

All of these earliest pioneers rest from their labors, and we to-day enjoy the blessings which their hardships have secured to us.

CHAPTER III

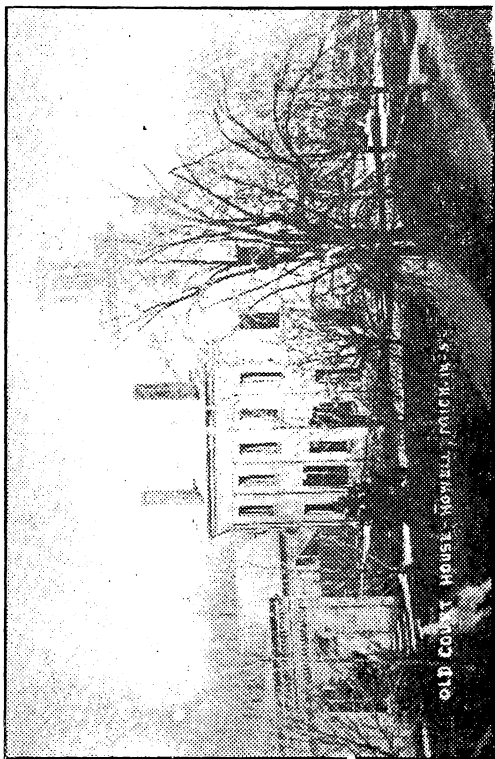
Early Developments

No sooner had Crane & Brooks secured an occupant for their Eagle Tavern, the only building in their new plot of 120 acres for their town of Howell, than they began work to secure a post office, which was located here on January 15, 1836 and Flavius J. B. Crane appointed post master. His office was in the Eagle Tavern as a matter of necessity for there was no other place. Previous to the location of the office, the few settlers in this vicinity received their mail at Detroit, Ann Arbor, Plymouth and Kensington and in fact continued to do so for some time afterwards, as no provisions were made for carrying mail to and from the new office, until March 20, when Lewis Thompson took the contract to make weekly trips to Kensington, on horseback, for that purpose. Soon after that date a mail route was established from Howell to Grand Rapids, and James R. Sage undertook to find his way over the Indian trails, through the wilderness, to carry the mail, a feat that he accomplished successfully after his first trip when he got completely lost and was obliged to spend the night in the woods.

An event occurred on the same date with the loca-

tion of the post office, which must not be forgotten. While they were surrounded with the hardships and privations of pioneer life, cupid was a pioneer too. His first victory was the celebration of the marriage of Merritt S. Havens, the first carpenter in the township, to Sally T. Austin. The marriage ceremony was performed by Esq. Bingham, afterward Governor of Michigan. The second wedding was that of Alvin L. Crittenden and Jane Thompson which occurred August 27 of that same year. Their wedding was made a social event. They were the first couple in the county to be married by a minister, Rev. John Cosart performing the ceremony. Mr. Crittenden borrowed a rig and drove to South Lyon the next day for a wedding trip, the first taken by any couple from Howell. Their wedding feast was right up to the very highest point of luxury in those days. Its central dish was a young pig nicely roasted and standing on a platter.

That following winter Mr. Crittenden got out the lumber and built a house on a farm bought with the savings from his year's work at Sage's. He would get out a hardwood log at home, draw it to the saw mill at the foot of the lake just east of the head of the present flume, and go on to the pinery west of what is now the town, where he would cut a pine log to be left at the mill on his return. By the time the oxen had made the round trip it was night. During the evening he would saw the two logs into lumber and



OLD COURT HOUSE, HOWELL, MICH.

get ready to repeat the round trip the next day. The old house stood up the bank from the little lake on the McPherson farm in the north part of this township and was torn down only a year or two ago. Mr. and Mrs. Crittenden only lived in it a year or two when they bought the farm which has been in the family since and is now owned by W. W. Crittenden and Mr. and Mrs H. D. Kirtland. They lived there until 1854 when Mr. Crittenden joined the M. E. conference. He served regular pastorates for twenty-six years when he and his wife returned to Howell to live.

The meetings commenced by Deacon Branch in 1835, at Eagle Hotel, were soon held from house to house. Some time in January, 1836, a Presbyterian clergyman named Wm. Page, stopped at Deacon Branch's and word was sent out for services which were held at the Deacon's house in Marion. This was the first sermon in this vicinity but it remained for Rev. Johnathan Post a Baptist clergyman to preach the first sermon in this township, which he did sometime in February at the home of George T. Sage. In April or May of the same year the second sermon in this township was preached at Moses Thompson's and was by Rev. Mr. Kanouse, a Presbyterian clergyman. Some time in April or May A. L. Crittenden walked to Ore Creek, (now Brighton) to attend a Methodist meeting which he heard was to be held there. While at this meeting he arranged for Rev. John Cosart to come to Howell in four weeks and

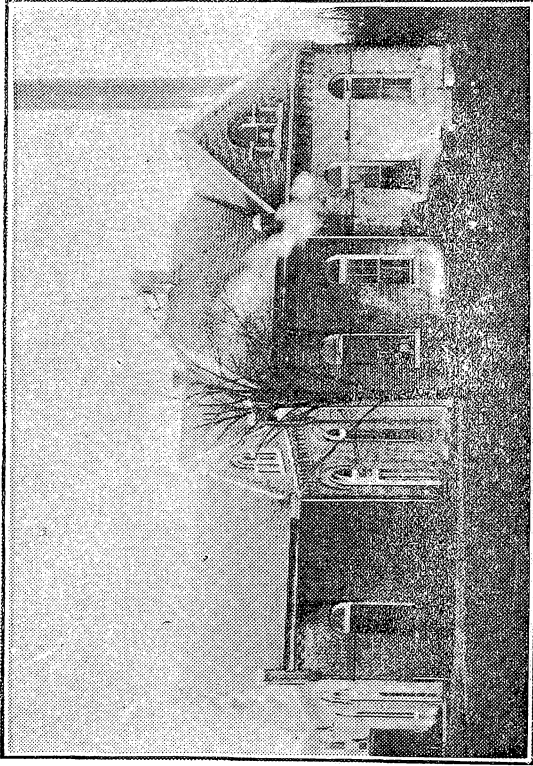
preach and form a class. By some mistake the notice was given a week too soon. The people assembled but as no preacher came, they decided, after a prayer meeting, to organize, and elected Pardon Barnard chairman and A. L. Crittenden secretary of the meeting. No class book was to be had so A. L. Crittenden who was elected leader, folded a sheet of writing paper to make a book, ruled it and entered the names of members therein. The original book is now a keepsake of the family and contained the following names as the original class: "Alvin L. Crittenden Pardon Barnard, Eliza Ann Barnard, Peter Brewer, Dorcas Brewer. Sylvester Rounds, Polly Rounds, Asahel Rounds, Mary Sage, Nathaniel Johnson," Rev. Cosart came the next Sunday, probably early in June, and preached the third sermon in the township, the first by a Methodist minister. He acknowledged the proceedings of organization and reported it to the Ohio conference who sent Rev. Washington Jackson as a missionary to Livingston County, during that fall. This was the first church organization in the township. Pardon Barnard and A. L. Crittenden were licensed as exhorters by this class, November 4, 1836.

Although Livingston County was laid out in 1833, the act to organize it was not passed until March 24, 1836. The act erecting the township of Howell, was approved the day previous. The territory included in the township by that act was the present townships of Howell, Oceola, Deerfield, Handy, Co-

hoctah and Conway. The first town meeting was held in April, 1836. A caucus was called of which A. L. Crittenden was clerk and he was therefore given the work of writing the tickets, in which he was assisted by John W. Smith. On the evening before the election someone suggested that there would be no fun without two tickets and so another was nominated nearly like the first, except that F. J. B. Crane was nominated for constable. The last nominated ticket was also written by the same two gentlemen and was victorious in the election. Nearly if not all the white voters in the township as organized turned out to the election which was held at the Eagle Tavern. The board consisted of Amos Adams, F. J. B. Crane, John W. Smith and Johnathan Austin, with A. L. Crittenden as clerk. A tea pot and sugar bowl were borrowed from the landlady, to serve as ballot boxes and thirty-six votes were cast. Officers elected were as follows: Supervisor Philester Jessup; Township Clerk, F. J. B. Crane; Justices of the Peace, Ezra Sanford, Harleigh H. Graves, John W. Smith; Collector, Francis Field; Assesors, Justin Durfee, David Austin, George T. Sage; School Inspectors, Joseph Porter, F. J. B. Crane, Johnathan Austin; Highway Commissioners, John Sanford, Justin Durfee, George T. Sage; Constables, John D. Pinckney, F. J. B. Crane, Francis Field, Elisha H. Smith. Some of the work of these township officers was very crude. The assessment was written upon

half sheets of writing paper which were fastened together at the ends with wafers. When completed, it was fifteen feet long. Justice John W. Smith had a case commenced before him but after the points of law were argued, the case was discontinued by the plaintiff withdrawing his suit and paying costs. This was the first law suit in the township.

At the time the county was organized a strong effort was made to locate the county site at Ore Creek, (now Brighton) and the adherents to this project did not give up entirely until the county buildings were built in the present location. This opposition delayed the county election a few weeks until the three commissioners appointed by the Governor, to locate county sites in counties where there were none, could be brought to this county when they located it on the old public square of the Crane & Brooks plat now occupied by Schroeder's hardware, the Episcopal church, etc. The first county election was held on the first Monday in May, 1836, and resulted in the election of the following officers: Sheriff, Justice J. Bennett; County Clerk, F. J. B. Crane; Register of Deeds, Ely Barnard; Treasurer, Amos Adams; Coroners, John W. Peavy, John Drake; Associate Judges, Elisha W. Brockway, Elnahan Noble. Only a part of the county officers were residents of Howell and that fact made little difference. Even the judge of probate did no office business during his entire term. The board of supervisors held their first meeting in



MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT AND WATER WORKS

Howell, October 4, 1836, and organized by election of Eli Lee of Hartland, moderator. The Democrats recieved 142 votes in Livingston County, at the election in November, 1836, and the Whigs, 73. This was the first division along party lines in the county and many of the pioneers feared that it would break up the good feeling which prevailed. The democrats held a meeting and raised a pole near the Eagle Tavern. The whigs were much incensed at this and shortly after the close of the campaign, someone bored it down with an auger, on a dark night.

In June of 1836 a heavy freshet swelled the Shiawassee River beyond what it has ever been known at any time. Among other damage done was the washing away of the log bridge at the Grand River Road crossing. This item is noticed only as a sample of how lumber was secured before the date of mills. To rebuild the bridge two men sawed the lumber with a pit saw, one standing above the logs which were rolled upon the buttments and the other below,, the one below wearing a veil. Wm. McPherson and family arrived on September 17, while this bridge was being rebuilt, and he bought the slabs from the bridge for the floor to his house.

Originally what is now Thompsons lake was three little lakes with a tamarack swamp between. Mr. Thompson noticed the excellent mill site when he prospected in 1833, and located at the foot of the lake to secure it. His original log house stood just back

of the old house near the foot of the lake and was connected with it for years. The old house was one of the first frame houses in this county. It is now quite a ways back from the road. When it was built the road ran by it. The place is now owned by Mrs. Sherman. He also located the tract of pine in the western part of the town, to work in his prospective mill. A dam was accordingly built and by its influence the water raised to about its present level, thus uniting the three lakes. The saw mill was finished and commenced running in September, 1836, the first logs sawed being made into a chamber floor for Wm. McPherson's house. So many of the settlers were in need of chamber floors that Morris Thompson who had charge of the mill, would not saw more lumber for any one man than enough for his chamber floor, until all the settlers had had a chance to avail themselves of those much needed conveniences for their homes.

The first store in the village was opened by F. J. B. Crane, in a room in the Eagle Tavern, but it was not a success and after two or three months, the goods were packed up and stored in the attic of the building. The first blacksmith shop was rather more successful. Andrew Riddle, father of Mrs. McPherson, came from Scotland in the spring of 1836 and built the shop before the arrival of his family who came with WmPherson's family in September. Mr. McPherson's house was built adjoining the shop and

he and Mr. Riddle commenced work in the shop soon after his arrival. Mr. Riddle moved to Oceola, during the next year and Mr. McPherson continued the business until 1841 when he engaged in mercantile business in partnership with Judge Turner with whom he continued but a short time. In 1845 he bought a half interest in business with E. B. Taylor, the firm doing business under the name of Taylor & McPherson for about two years when he bought Mr. Taylor's interests, and continued the business in his own name until 1852 when he formed a partnership with Wm. Riddle, which continued until 1856. when Wm. McPherson Jr. bought Mr. Riddle's interest and the business was continued until 1864 under the firm name of Wm. McPherson & Co., it being changed to the present name at that time, and as his sons were becoming men he took them one by one into the firm. What is now the front portion of the main store was erected in 1857. As the old building grew to small, additions were built upon its rear from time to time until it is now 120 feet deep with two additional stores west of the old one. With little change the firm continued until the close of 1887 when Wm. McPherson, Sr. retired and a new firm was organized composed of M. J. McPherson, E. G. McPherson and H. T. Browning, who continue the business under the old name. Mr. Browning retired January 1, 1898.

The McPherson bank was started in April, 1865, with Alexander McPherson in charge. He remained

in that position until 1890 when he engaged in banking business in Detroit, William McPherson jr. took charge of the bank here at that time, and is still in that position. There have been some changes in the firm among members of the family, but the name has always remained as it started, Alexander McPherson & Co.

Preperations were made for a school in the fall of 1836 and a building was commenced but no record remains to show positively whether it was occupied that year or early in 1837. Justin Durfee was the first teacher.

The wolves which infested the country were among the terrors of pioneer life and many are the stories of narrow escapes from these dreaded terrors. When young fellows went to see their best girls the young ladies were often called upon to listen with beating hearts, to the howling of the wolves which beset their beaus on their way home after bidding them adieu. The girls learned the direction of their fellow's homes and guessed them sefely there when the sound of the wolves' howling reached that direction.

Two Germans by the name of Shrafts, came to Howell in 1836. A little before night they broke their wagon. One stayed to guard the load while the other went to Moses Thompson's with the team, to stay all night. When he returned in the morning with two of Mr. Thompson's sons, Shrafts was nearly tired to death and complained bitterly of the settlers'

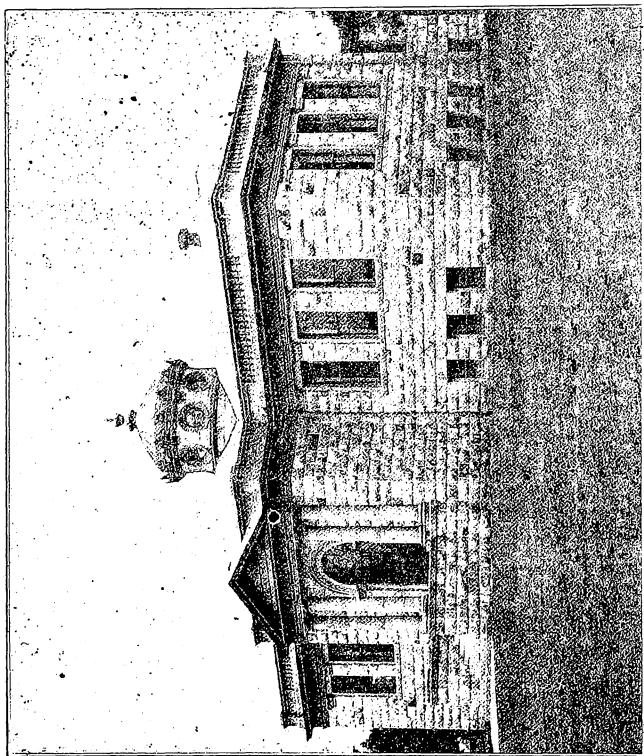
big burley dogs. "Why," said he, "the big burley dogs were so saucy. They would put their paws clear up on the wagon and snap and snarl at me, and I could hardly drive them off with my club." The mystery was soon solved by the Thompson boys as part of the load was some fresh meat. The poor German was nearly scared to death when he found that he had been fighting wolves all night.

The village as it appeared about this time was nicely described by Edward F. Gay who prospected here in the fall of 1836 and settled with his family in 1837. After detailing his attempt to reach Livingston Center as the village was then called, and losing the trail two or three times, he described his success in an address to the pioneer society in 1872, as follows: "Though now becoming anxious to reach the Center I was doomed still to wander on the verge. I was on the trail, though among brush, and meandering the lake. Beholding a light, hope revived, but it was again extinguished for before it was reached the light disappeared, for the very good reason that Mr. Moses Thompson and family had retired to bed. Not being willing to be thwarted in this, my second day's attempt to reach Livingston Center, I hallooed for light under difficulties. The old gentleman soon put me on the right trail again, saying that after crossing a ravine and again rising the bluff I would behold the light at the Center, which had so often guided the lost and weary traveler. I found it as he

had said. and soon beheld Livingston Center, in the person of that noble landlord and life-long hotel keeper, Amos Adams. One single frame building as a hotel, without a barn, together with three or four log houses, constituted Livingston Center. My horse was fastened to a small oak tree against which a log was lying, with troughs cut in the side to feed the grain. The only families, which I now recollect, then residing in Howell or vicinity, besides the Adams family, were Mr. McPherson, Watson G. Thomas, Mr. Sage and son, David Austin, Sardis Davis, Herman Bristol, and Moses Thompson. The single men were Lewis, Morris, and Edward Thompson, Mr. Critenden, Mr. Frisbee, Ely Barnard, John Russle and Conrad Woll."

Immediately after settling here in the spring of 1837, Mr. Gay hunted out the remenant of F. J. B. Crane's stock of goods from the attic of the Eagle Tavern, and with about \$1,600 worth of goods from New York, opened the pioneer store of the village which maintained an existence for any great length of time. His store building was the second frame building in the town, being preceded only by the Eagle Tavern. At various times in its existence this building was used for a store, lawyer's office, post office, shoe shop, place for holding meetings, minister's residence and family residence, and in its earlier history it often did duty for two or three of these purposes at once.

The old building, modeled over, was for years the



HOWELL'S CARNEGIE LIBRARY

upright of a tenant house on Sybley St., owned by J. I. VanDeusen and some of the material is now part of the newly erected tenant house of W. W. Kenyon on the old site at the corner of Sybley and East streets. occupied by Glen Brown and family.

Probably the third frame building to be erected in Howell was the school house. This building was erected on a lot donated to the village by F. J. B. Crane, for that purpose. Some provisions were made for it in the previous year but as Moses Thompson's saw mill was soon to be set in motion, the building was left until lumber could be secured from that source. It was occupied early in the summer, probably some time in June, and Miss Abigail Adams, daughter of the landlord, was the first teacher in a regular school building. The building was never satisfactory to the district and numerous resolutions to build new ones are found upon the records. It was finally sold in 1848, and a room rented for school purposes for several years. This old building served as the frame part of the old Curtis foundry for some years. It has been occupied by Snedecor's poultry and egg business for several years past. The original site of the old building was about midway between Chris. Schaffer's cement residence and Bernard Walker's barn.

The friends of Howell as the county seat of the new county, felt that quite a victory had been achieved when Judge Fletcher held the first term of court here,

commencing November 8, 1837. It was held in the old school house which was used for that purpose for some time afterward, also for holding church services and other public meetings.

Richard Fishbeck who came to Genoa with his family in 1835, moved to Howell the following year and opened the first shoe shop in the town. He continued in that business until his death in 1875. The business descended to his sons, S. G. and L. N. who are still conducting it under the firm name of Fishbeck Brothers, on the same site where their father started it in 1836. Mr. Fishbeck built the third frame dwelling house in Howell. It is still standing on Walnut street near the Ann Arbor depot. Their old furniture yet remains there just as Mrs. Fishbeck left it, probably the only case of that kind now in the county.

James White, the first cabinet maker in Howell, also arrived in 1836.

In the spring of 1837, Esq. Adams arranged to build a log barn for his Eagle Tavern, which was raised in May of that year. Samuel Waddell, father of the late Andrew D. Waddell, was injured during the raising of this barn, so that he died from the result of these, injuries, on May 30, 1837, the first death in the township.

The food of the pioneers in addition to what they raised on their farms, was largely venison and honey both of which could be had in abundance by hunting. Francis Monroe sr. used to laugh about how, in his

younger years, the pioneers used to flock to each other's houses to visit, if anyone had been to the outside world, that they might get a taste of salt pork, dried apples or other similar luxuries. Among the pioneer stories which C. G. Jewett remembers from his parents, is the fact that they brought with them when they came to Howell in 1837, a quantity of salt pork and that neighbors used to send in for a piece when anyone was sick and needed some little delicacy to tempt their appetite. Another early pioneer food was a flour made by grinding sweet acorns which had been gathered and dried, and it wasn't at all bad to eat either.

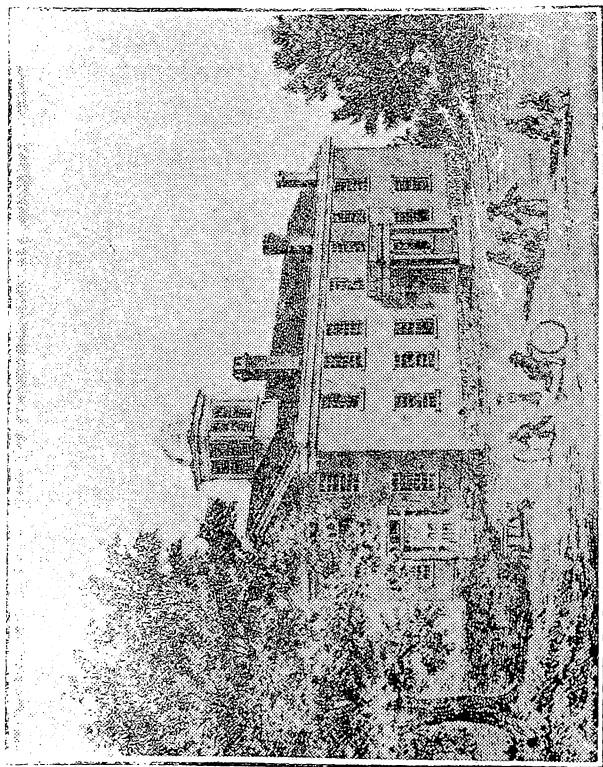
With the organization of the state, county and township, each offered a bounty for killing wolves and several pioneers made that enterprise almost their entire business for a time, the \$17 for the scalp of each, proving quite a fortune in those times. Prominent among these was Francis Monroe who earned quite a reputation in the winter of 1837, for a fight with a big black wolf which he had caught in his trap and in the killing of which he nearly lost his own life.

The board of supervisors at its fall meeting in 1837 submitted a proposition to the county to borrow \$1,000 to build a jail, but it was voted down as was a similar proposition in 1838, and prisoners from this county were confined at Ann Arbor.

On the 14th of April 1838, Rev. Thomas Baker of Highland, met at the village school house with

Silas Dibble, Gardner Mason, Justin Durfee, Joseph A. Dibble, Sardis Davis, Sarah Field, Sarah Durfee, Lydia Austin and Hannah Austin all of whom held letters from or were members of Baptist churches in the east, and after religious services, they proceeded to plan for the organization of a Baptist church in Howell. Silas Dibble, Gardner Mason and Justin Durfee were appointed a committee to prepare Articles of Faith and Practice and Church Covenant. This committee reported at a meeting held in the same place May 12, their report being adopted, Rev. Thomas Baker, the founder of the church, was called to the pastorate at this meeting, a position which he filled until the close of the year when he was succeeded by Rev. E. Mosher. It was arranged to call a council of recognition which met at the school house, June 21. It was organized by the choice of Rev. E. Weaver as Moderator, and A. Kemis, Clerk. The records of this council show a representation of four churches by delegates; Highland, E. Lee, J. Tenny; Hartland, A. Lamb; Walled Lake, Rev. E. Weaver, J. Coe, N. Daniels; Kensington, Rev. A. P. Mather, D. Seely, E. Cole, A. N. Kemis.

The church records show the following names received by letter on that date, and organized into a regular Baptist church: Silas Dibble, Aaron Sickles, Fanny Dibble, Hannah Austin, Joseph Dibble, Justin Durfee, Rachel Dibble, Lydia Austin, Daniel Case, Anna Dibble, Sarah Durfee, Laura Monroe. The



HOWELL UNION SCHOOL

RE-BUILT IN 1856

TORN DOWN IN 1867

BUILT IN 1849

usual service of recognition was held on the same day. The sermon was preached by Rev. Weaver, from Psalms xxvi, 8. The address to the church and hand of fellowship were given by Rev. Lamb.

During its first year eleven were added to the church membership by letter. At the close of the second year the membership numbered thirty-two. Of the nine who joined during that year, six were by letter and three by profession of faith. The first person received by baptism was Harriet M. Sickles who was baptized April 14, 1839. During that year the church was attached to the Michigan Association.

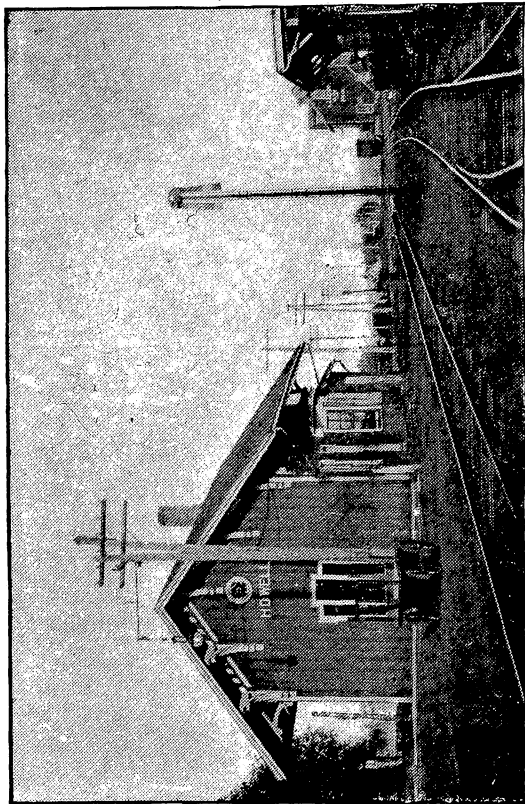
Hon. Milo L. Gay described the organization of the Presbyterian church as follows: "My first recollections of attending meeting in the then new town date to a year and three months prior to the foundation of this church. In the spring of 1837, I remember following along after my father in a winding path which led through the woods from the farm known as the Reed farm, down to the Center, then winding northward by another path through the woods to the Thompson log house on the bank of the pond, where meetings were held once in four weeks, by Elder Post who came on horseback, I think from Plymouth. Also in a fortnight thereafter we followed another trail westward to the small log house of James Sage, situated on the identical spot where William McPherson jr's. house now stands. There I think we occasionally listened to a Methodist preacher; and the

particular impression there made upon my mind was the peculiar and quaint style of starting the tune by old Mr. Sage who, although himself a Universalist, consented to act in the capacity of choirister, and also to accommodate the neighbors with a place in which to hold meetings. Another impression was in regard to the peculiar bent position required to be maintained by the taller persons when standing, to prevent their heads coming in contact with the crossbeams above.

The sixteenth and seventeenth days of June, 1838, are still fresh in my memory, as they were memorable days in the history of the little hamlet then known as Livingston Center. Those days fell on Saturday and Sunday and the meetings were held in the loft of a one-and-a-half story building which my father had recently erected for a store. The floor of the room above was of rough boards and the ceiling was nothing but the roof-boards and shingles, in close proximity to the heads of the adults; and the rough tamarack rafters, with their knotty projections, were a constant reminder that all should humble themselves in the business in which they were about to engage."

The main portion of the old building described by Mr. Gay, is now the upright of Mrs. Burbank's residence. Some of it's material is in W. W. Kenyon's tenant house, as stated elsewhere.

The business of the meeting referred to by Mr. Gay, was the organization of the Presbyterian church by Rev. Henry Root. The following were the original



STATION OF THE PERE MARQUETTE R. R.

members: David H. Austin, Josiah P. Jewett, Horace Griffith, Artemas Mahan, John T. Watson, George W. Jewett, Edward F. Gay, Price Morse, Andrew Riddle, William McPherson, Charles Clark, Lucretia Jewett, Catherine Griffith, Polly Ann Mahan, Hila Mahan, Julia Mahan, Sarah Mahan, Harriet L. Watson, Anise P. Jewett, Clarissa L. Gay, Elvira Morse, Elizabeth McPherson, Margaret Thompson, Matilda Clark, Mary Clark. Three ruling elders were elected who also held the office of deacon. They were as follows: For one year, George W. Jewett; for two years, John T. Watson; for three years, Edward F. Gay. The legal organization was effected on the 7th of July following. Meetings were held in the school house during the following year.

Garrett S. Lake having worked at brickmaking in New York, commenced the manufacture of brick near Fleming, in 1838, and it is from his yard that the brick in many of the oldest chimneys in town came. About this time Amos Adams ceased to be proprietor of the Eagle tavern, it having been sold. He formed a partnership with Joseph Porter and built a saw mill on the Shiawassee river on section 27. This site was afterwards used for a carding mill and cloth factory by Joseph M. Gilbert. Soon after starting his saw mill Mr. Adams built a hotel on the south side of the Grand River road, west of the river. This building was afterwards moved across the road and was torn down about twenty years ago. Among a large col-

lection of pioneer relics owned by Fishbeck Brothers, is the old dinner bell brought from New York and used by Mr. Adams at the Eagle tavern.

The first horses, cattle, hogs and fowls came with the earliest pioneers but the first sheep were brought here in 1838, by Ira Brayton.

The "wild cat banking" scheme of those early days affected Howell with the other towns of the young state. Messrs. Gay and Whipple enjoyed a very large trade. Money was plenty and everyone bought all they wanted. Sometime afterward, in describing these times, Mr. Gay said: "I found it easy to take \$100 a day, but I was not so easily sure that the wild cat money would be worth one dollar the next morning and was quite sure it would not be when Lewis Thompson arrived with our weekly horseback mail." At one time Mr. Gay paid \$40 to a hotel between here and Detroit,. The amount of the bill in good money would have been \$2.50. A proposition was made to organize a wildecat bank in Howell and the initiatory steps were taken but before it was perfected those institutions in other places began to crack and Howell therefore escaped.

In the fall of 1836 William Riddle was taken very sick and lay apparently at the point of death, for some time. This led the settlers to think of a burying ground and land was given for the purpose by Alexander Fraser, John D. Pinckney and Moses Thompson. It was located near the south-east part of the lake.

Mr. Riddle recovered and the first burial there was that of Miss Davis, a sister of Mrs. Johnathan Austin. The site of this burying ground was never satisfactory to the people. After it had been used for some time it was abandoned and a new burying ground was laid out where the Ann Arbor railroad crosses Bernard street. The swing of the town to the east by the location of Court House square, sent the settlement clear around this burying ground. When it was filled a new one was secured on the bank of Thompson's lake.

In moving from the first burying ground to the second, everyone did the work for their own friends. The ground was soon dug over in such a way that it was impossible to find several graves. The oldest daughters of Rev. and Mrs. A. L. Crittenden and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Fishbeck were among those which could never be located to transfer.

The first lawyer Wellington A. Glover, settled in Howell in 1838 and opened his office in the store of E. F. Gay. He was an ardent Whig and that fact no doubt injured his practice somewhat in this stronghold of Democracy, but it helped him to the office of postmaster to which he was appointed in 1841. In a few weeks after the lawyer came a doctor in the person of Dr. Gardner Wheeler who at once commenced the practice of his profession and continued to do so in this vicinity for more than twenty years, during which time he was generally respected by all who knew him.

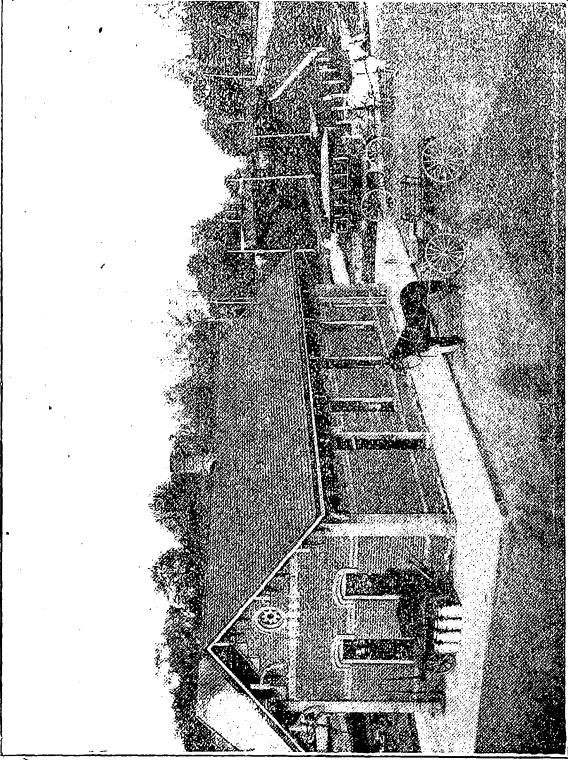
His office which stood where the Sabin block now stands, was moved in later years and is now a part of the first house south of Parshall's mill. His residence which occupied the site of M. J. McPherson's home, was moved up the Byron road and is now owned by John Owen.

The first land located in Howell township was the east half of the south-west quarter of section 27, on May 20, 1833. It was where the Grand River road crosses the Shiawassee river. Amos Adams flowed this land when he erected his saw mill a little further down the stream, and considerable of it was in a mill pond for years.

The old home of John D. Pinckney which was torn down to grade Library park, was built about this time and was one of the most pretentious houses in the village. It had a brick oven built in the side of the fireplace, a decided luxury which Mrs. Pinckney used to take great delight in loaning to her neighbors who had no such convenience, to use for their baking.

When Mr. Pinckney's family were coming to Howell they were given some apples where they stopped at Ann Arbor. The seeds were planted and produced the old apple trees which were cut when the house was torn down. While not in this township, Wm. C. Rumsey's saw mill in Oceola, furnished so much of the lumber in Howell buildings that it should be noticed.

There has been considerable change too in the topo-



ANN ARBOR R. R., DEPOT

graphy of the village. C. G. Jewett remembers sneaking around a pond for ducks, about where William Whitacre is now building a home, and many of the boys and girls of other days remember a favorite place to slide down hill a little ways this side of the P. M. depot, which has all been graded away.

In these early days pigeons were so thick that it was no fun to hunt them. A big tree which stands in Mrs. Dollie Butler's yard was one of their favorite haunts. If anyone wanted a mess of pigeons to eat they would go over there and shoot what they wanted and leave the rest

There are so many things of interest for this period of our history that we are loth to leave them. It would be wrong however for us to pass to a new period without a word of that sturdy class who settled here to create homes, the real foundation of any good civilization, but who, while backing every worthy enterprise, were more quiet in their way of doing things. Two representatives of this class will always be remembered for their honesty of purpose and solid worth. They were Rev. E. E. Gregory and William Smith.

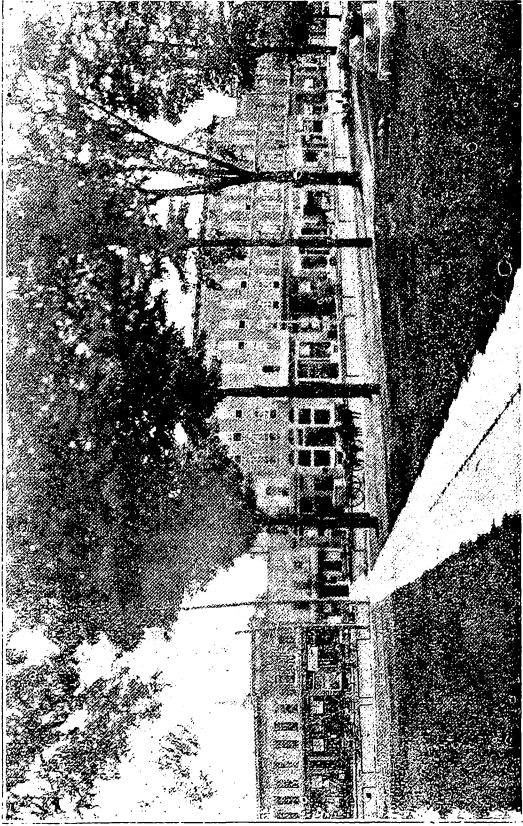
During previous years the scanty crops which the pioneers had been able to gather had only sufficed to keep them during the severest of privations. By the harvest of 1838 sufficient land had been put to crops to secure enough and to spare and the ingathering that season marked an advance of no little importance.

CHAPTER IV.

Hotels and Fun

In his first address to the county pioneer society Judge Turner discussed the first settlers in a social way, He could not remember any extensive colonization but said that "there were to be found among the early settlers men from Ireland, Scotland, England Wales, New England, New York, Ohio and the Canadas. They had never seen or heard of each other before. This sort of mixed settlement was as pleasant as any. The mormon is doomed to see the hated gentile climb his fence ere it is scarcely built. The most carefully consorted communities can scarcely preserve their exclusiveness for an hour, I conclude therefore that Livingston county made as much progress and had realy as much amusement as any other."

Hon. Jerome W. Turner once said: "Howell was a town from the start with a grin on its countennnce, which never relaxed but continually flowed into guffaws." In 1839 Shubael B. Slitter emigrated to Howell from Ann Arbor, where he had moved from New York four years before, and bought of Simon P. Shope the tract east of the village on the Grand River road as it was by this time called, about where it is crossed by the Ann Arbor railway. On this land there



SOUTH SIDE OF GRAND RIVER STREET, OPPOSITE COURT HOUSE

was a house built by Alexander Fraser for a residence to which Sliter added a log and a frame addition and opened a hotel. To this hotel and its proprietor is largely due the reputation for fun which Howell soon gained abroad.

In an impromptu address to the pioneer society in 1873 Judge Turner told this story: In these early days court week was the great occasion of the new county. Everybody was at court. The crowd that gathered at Sliter's at such time was far beyond all his limited sleeping accommodations. His bar room floor was literally covered with jurors and witnesses during the nights.

One night when the floor was about as densely populated as it could be with sleepers two lawyers named George Danforth and Olney Hawkins from Ann Arbor, crawled out the back way, and by inducements in the shape of Indian corn, succeeded in calling two large hogs to the bar room door and getting them inside. Then they started a bulldog Slitter owned after the hogs and quietly but swiftly retired to their beds in a rear passage. If Slitter's dog ever had any failings they could not be urged against his persistency as a biter. The scene that followed would baffle description. The squealing of a captured hog is always very thrilling but when dinned into the ears of sleeping men at the dead of night, and it is accompanied by vicious kicks and thumps on their bodies it is alarming.

The condition of affairs in these days is best described by two gentlemen who were here at the time. We quote from Judge Turner and his son above quoted.

“Men from the east who had no design of settling here, staged it out from Detroit, or over from Dexter, to spend a few days in laughing. One man I know, who resided in the city of New York, who has since told me that he was accustomed to travel through almost every town in the United States large enough to hold a meeting house without finding one that could equal Howell for fun. There was an abandonment about it, too, that gave it zest; men laughed in hearty deep-chested tones here in the back woods, and assembled to see the perpetration of a practical joke in more numerical strength than they did at a funeral. Nobody was in a hurry, no one was careful or troubled about many things; we had actors and an audience. Men forsook what little business they had for simple sport. One man I knew—Elijah Coffren, a carpenter and joiner by trade,—who would come down from the roof of a promising job to join in a little hilarity, and not be able to get away from it so that he could return in a month. The super-urgent business was fun; that was a complete plea to any declaration for damages on account of any delay in work. Even shows which were supposed to carry about with them a sort of stereotyped humor which can make an hour passable, were tame concerns here in those early days and it was two to one that some-

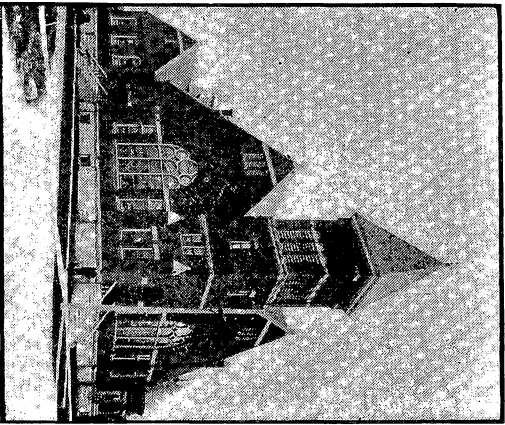
thing laughable would happen to them before they left the place. Subjects of mesmerism underwent copious inundations of cold water; the magic lantern cuirass suddenly grew cloudy with ink, and the return of pewter and tin sixpences astonished the showman when he counted up after the performance. Apropos of this there were at an early day, organized in Howell, companies of squirters who were armed with pint and quart squirt guns with which they deluged all bibulous individuals. A man could get on a drunk in the daytime but he had need to watch the sun very closely and not be seen around after nightfall.

“Some of the subjects of this sport were somewhat ugly; for instance Levi Bristol, a square fighter, a man who would have been known as an athlete among the Thebians, but who usually got cornered when he came to town. He was emphatically an ugly customer and he asserted in all sorts of forcible inelegance, that ‘the first man who squirts any water onto me’ll get his head knocked off.’ I remember as though it were but yesterday, his standing one afternoon nearly in front of Kellogg & Austin’s store—present location—and he looked like one of Dumas’ ‘colossal wrestlers’ in the olympic ring, as he dared the whole town to furnish him an antagonist who should come bearing a tin squirt gun. Boy as I was I had read the story of Goliath of Gath, and when I saw a single person, a stripling in size emerge from a building on the street with a quart squirt gun at ‘present arms’ and advance

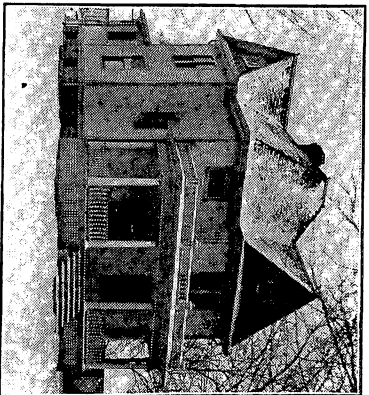
toward this gawk, I must confess I thought I could see a complete repetition of that historical incident. I do not know that I was certain then or that I am entirely positive now, who the lad was who went out against him, but he had a wonderful similarity to one Leander Smith, who once lived in Howell, so similar as to puzzle people as to the question of identity. A fine stream from the youth's gun struck Bristol fair and square in the eyes! Bristol plunged down like a kingfisher, and whirled himself along in knots and spirals through the dirt of the street uttering the most abominable yells that ever issued from human lips. He did not seem to know where he was going or to have the least care. He burst through the front door of Elisha Hazard's grocery, knocking over a counter and roaring like a bull of Bashan! Well, whisky and pepper-sauce in equal parts is not a very pleasant eye lotion, and Bristol's visits to Howell became more and more infrequent and of a less turbulent character.

“The general store was a rendezvous and its mammoth stove became somewhat of a social shrine. There the people gathered and there they brought out their jewels, like the toads, after dark. These jewels served our purpose then, let us hope that they may not be entirely unregarded now.”

“There lived here, a good many years ago, a man who was familiarly called ‘Old Cuff Simons,’ of genial good-nature, but he was prone to take to much liquor.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.



METHODIST EPISCOPAL PARSONAGE.

The boys, on certain occasions of his intoxication, would deluge the old man with water to an extent which would satisfy any reasonable Thompsonian. One evening they were engaged in this pastime in a hotel kept by George Curtis in this place, and an elderly stranger, who happened to be present thinking it to be an imposition on the old man, strongly remonstrated with the boys against what he termed 'such shameful conduct.' But what was his surprise when Simons turned upon him with open jack-knife saying: 'You're a transient person (hic) mind your own (hic) business; the boys are going (hic) to have their sport.' In New York or Boston such interference might have been regarded as timely by a besieged drinker, but at Livingston Center it was resented by the victim with far more warmth than by his persecutors''

One day the boys secured an old crate in which dishes had been shipped, and got it ready for Simons when he should get on a drunk. It wasn't a great while before they had use for their cage. "Old Cuff" thought the joke a good one when they coaxed him out on the public square and got him into the trap. He roared and bellowed for awhile, imitating a wild animal. After awhile he tired of it and wanted to get out but the old crate was fixed up too strong and it was half a day or more before he was released.

About 1840 the land was full of prospectors and adventurers and these numerous hotels did a much larger

business proportionately than they would today. Although Sliter's was some distance from town and a long stretch of corduroy road lay between the village and the hotel it was a popular resort. It came to be understood however that the man who stopped there must expect to become the victim of some joke before he left and few got away without an experience more or less funny.

Sliter afterwards settled in Deerfield where his wife died. After that he went to Kent county and started another hotel but lost it in a trade for land which only existed in the mind of the speculator who beat him out of his property.

Allen C. Weston started some kind of a stage line between Howell and Detroit, in 1838 and in 1840 began the erection of a hotel. Before it was finished his eyesight failed and he traded the property and stage line to Benjamine Spring for land on section 15. Spring completed the hotel and built a new stage which was probably as odd as the odd character who ran the line. It was painted red and named the "Red Bird." It was not only a vehicle for land traffic but carried passengers safely through the rapids near Detroit where it served as a boat.

Spring was a worthy contemporary of Sliter. It is said that he had a boarder who was more prompt to meals than he was to pay his bill. Spring met him at the dining room door as he was coming out with several boarders one day, and handing him some

money, told him "for pity sakes when you come next time, stop and pay for what you eat." Spring acknowledged himself beaten when the boarder took his cash and calling the crowd with him, went over to the bar of another hotel and set-em-up.

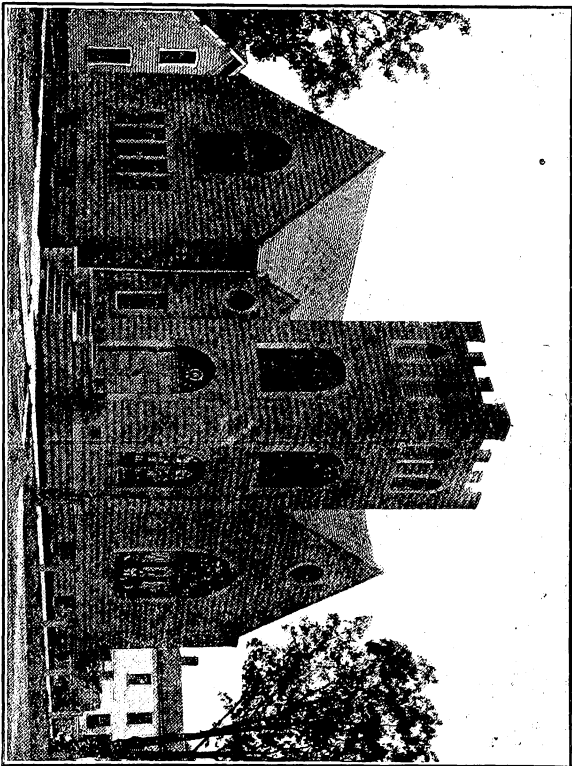
Spring was a great admirer of General Cass. The old vetran stopped at his hotel when campaigning here and Spring went into the dining room himself to see that his noted guest was properly cared for. Judge of his consternation when he saw the general pull a hair out of the butter. But Spring was not to be daunted and called out to his wife, in a voice which could be heard all over the room, telling her to go over to Gay's store and see if she couldn't find some butter in which the hairs were better rotted.

One summer night in 1844, when a party of men were busy with cards at Spring's hotel their bottle was left so near the window that some boys reached in and stole it. The effect upon them was as a live coal which had roused Edward F. Gay who had decided to try and better the condition by building a temperance hotel. Accordingly he talked the matter over with his neighbors and decided to buy the lot where the Goodnow block now stands, at the corner of Grand River and Division streets. Unfortunately he told some of his neighbors of this decision and the opposition attempted to head off his temperance movement. Hezekiah Gates hurried off to Detroit the day before Gay was to go, and bought the lot. As soon as

he returned he began arranging for the erection of a hotel which afterwards became Union Hall and was prominent here for years.

Mr. Gay learned of the Gates scheme just before leaving for Detroit, and selected another site which was the lot upon which stands the buildings occupied by the First State and Savings Bank and Barron & Wine's drug store. This hotel was the first brick building in Howell and the first temperance hotel for miles around. The brick for its erection were burned on Mr. Gay's own farm in Marion, now occupied by Eastman's dairy farm. Z. M. Drew furnished the lime from a kiln he had established near the Marion town line. Hon. C. C. Ellsworth afterwards a prominent lawyer here, was the first landlord. Mr. Ellsworth surely was Daniel like for he opened the hotel with a flag flying to the breeze upon which was inscribed "Liberty and Temperance." Mr. Gay kept the hotel for many years and then sold it. It was purchased after a while by Mr. Pebbles and its name changed to Livingston Hotel. It remained a temperance hotel until torn down when John Weimeister built the present block in 1869.

Superstitious ones were not at all surprised at the fate of Hezekiah Gates and his project. The building of his hotel proved too great a project for his financial resources. Before its completion he was obliged to go into bankruptcy. The property was acquired by Taylor & McPherson and changed hands a number of



EVANGELICAL CHURCH

times until 1871, when Union Hall as it was then known, was burned.

Shaft's hotel which was built a little later than the others mentioned, really belonged to this period. It's first owner was William C. Shaft who was Spring's opposition in the stage business to Detroit. It changed hands several times until 1865, when it was purchased by Benjamine H. Rubert who added a third story and ran the house successfully until his death. His son Seth B. Rubert ran the house a number of years. It has changed hands two or three times since Mr. Rubert died but still bears his name.

CHAPTER V.

Not All Fun

In 1838 the Legislature created a board of county commissioners. But little is left of their records. Emery Beal, Charles P. Bush and Orman Holmes constituted the board.

The County Commissioners ceased to have authority after the Legislature of 1842 and the board of supervisors was reorganized. It has met regularly ever since that time.

Judge Kingsley S. Bingham the first Probate Judge of this county, had no official business to perform. His office was at his residence in Green Oak. The next, Judge James W. Stanbury, lived in Pinckney and held his court there. The first will he admitted to probate was that of James Sage, the first white settler of Howell, who died June 29, 1839. His will was dated January 15 of that year and was officially witnessed by Dr. Wellington A. Glover and wife and O. J. Pinckney. Mr. Sage's son-in-law, Joseph H. Pinckney, was appointed executor. The legatees were Mrs. Sage widow of the deceased, and her children, George T. Sage, James R. Sage, Chester A. Sage, Mary A. W. Pinckney and Hannah A. Walker. The date of record is quite badly faded but it was sometime in July, 1839.

Judge George W. Kneeland who was elected in 1840, moved the office to Howell. His first business was on February 8, 1841, when letters of administration were granted in the estate of Josiah P. Jewett.

The Presbyterian society held most of its meetings in the village school house, as did both the other denominations, until the year 1840. In 1839 the society began the erection of a church building which was completed the following year. This church originally stood a little north of the Central School House square and fronted to the south, amidst what was then a growth of underbrush. The site proved to be a bad one as in muddy weather, the church was almost inaccessible, and it was moved to nearly the present site of the Knapp shops. Sometime afterward the society became involved by too extensive repairs to the building and it was sold at forced sale, to the highest bidder. It was afterwards moved to Division street and occupied by Staley's wagon shop for a good many years. Its old ruins, about twenty feet from the first school house, still remain.

When the church was first organized it adopted the union plan but on September 21, 1839, by resolution it became Presbyterian and remained so until July 29, 1843 when it changed to Congregational, but returned to Presbyterian October 27, 1845 and has been in that connection since that date.

As before referred to there was a determined effort made to move the county site to Brighton and the

matter was brought before the Legislature in 1837 but was defeated by the determined efforts of F. J. B. Crane and others. This agitation however had the effect to defeat all projects to build suitable buildings when presented to the people as heretofore detailed in these pages. The earliest officers who had office in Howell, all made their offices at the Eagle Tavern. F. J. B. Crane built a one story building of two rooms near the site of Mrs. Amos T. Slader's present residence, in 1837 and the county offices were soon moved to it, the building being rented by the county. It was afterwards purchased as will be noted further on. In 1842, the board of supervisors contracted with Benjamin Spring, for the use of his ball room in his hotel in which to hold court, for fifteen dollars, he to furnish wood. This arrangement only lasted for a short time and the Presbyterian church was leased for holding court and all county meetings. The rental was twenty five dollars per term of court for a time, and later, forty dollars per year, for all county purposes. This latter arrangement continued for about three years, until what is now known as the old court house, was completed. In the spring of 1845, a vote was taken at each town meeting, to build a court house and jail, and the board of Supervisors elected a building committee who advertised for the recieval of plans and specifications. By the time the board met in October of that year, they had taken legal counsel and decided that they had not a legal

right to levy a tax for the same and so resolved.

In the following year the Legislature passed an enabling act and the board at a special meeting in June, 1846, arranged for the building of the old court house. After some delay, the contract was let to Emos B. Taylor who completed the building late in the fall of 1847. The total cost including extras, was \$5,928.

By a resolution of the Board, the belfry was erected upon condition that the people of Howell should raise a suitable sum to purchase a bell. When the old court house was torn down, the bell was saved by Fishbeck Brothers and others. It has since been properly mounted and stands just inside the bar railing in the circuit court room.

When it came to building the court house, the location became an important issue. No one had cared particularly where the commissioners should locate the county site except that it should be in Howell but when the buildings were to be commenced that was another question and especially so to Peter Cowdry and Edward Thompson who had platted additions to the village and were sure that if they could get the buildings located upon their land it would prove a boom to their additions. After a proper effort they succeeded in so doing and the county site was changed from the old public square south of Grand River street and west of Walnut street, to its present location, the front part of the present square being donated to the county by Mr. Cowdry and the north half by Mr.

Thompson, the land presented including the streets clear around the present square. The lots of the original portion of town had many of them been purchased by speculators who were non residents and this fact with the moving of the county site, had much to do with changing the principal part of the town to the new additions. With the procuring of the new site, the old county office building was moved to the new square in a position about midway between the present front of the court house and the west side of the square. When the brick office building was erected on that site it was moved to the north side of the square and was later sold to William B. Smith who moved it a block east, on the south side of Grand River street west of Bernard street, where it became part of the residence recently purchased by Oscar Hesse. It has been rebuilt several times. Immediately after the court house was finished the board of supervisors passed a resolution to allow all religious denominations to hold services there and the proposition was accepted by all but the Presbyterians who already had their church built.

The jail and sheriff's residence occupied the ground floor of the old court house and the court and jury rooms the second story.

In 1849 a contract was let to George W. and Frederick J. Lee to build an office building west of the court house, on the site occupied by the wooden office building. This building was completed that year and

accepted by the supervisors at their January meeting. It cost \$545.20. This building served its purpose until 1873 when it was demolished and a better one took its place for the County Clerk and Register of Deeds offices.

In 1853 a building was erected for use of the Judge of Probate and County Treasurer, east of the court house, and similar to the one then standing west of the court house, which became County Clerk and Register of Deeds offices after this building was completed.

When the square was cleared to make room for the new court house, much of the material in the three buildings went into the walls of the present court house.

Rail roads were a big thing in those days as well as now and about this time a line was projected from Detroit to Kensington, thence to Howell and thence to Shiawassee village, a line which would scarcely be urged as exceedingly promising today.

As before referred to a cemetery was located near the southeast part of the lake but the site was not entirely satisfactory to all and another was located nearer town but this proved no more satisfactory than the other. The matter was finally settled by the purchase of the old cemetery, of Edward Thompson in 1840. The first burial was that of Henry Wheeler a young man who was just entering manhood. The site of the old cemetery is now part of the Toledo Ann Arbor and North Michigan Railway grounds where they are crossed by Barnard street and run a little east of the

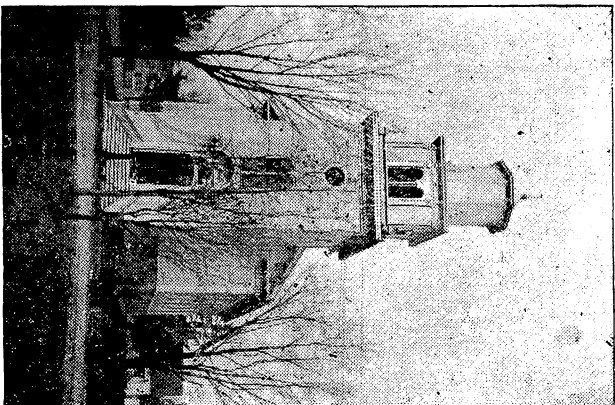
street where S. B. Rubert's lumber and coal yard is now located.

About this time or a little before, the village acquired its first resident pastor. Rev. Henry Root who had been employed by the Presbyterian church, moved to Howell as its pioneer in that profession. The people of this county were of a literary taste and in 1843 organized a Union Lyceum which became very popular in those early days.

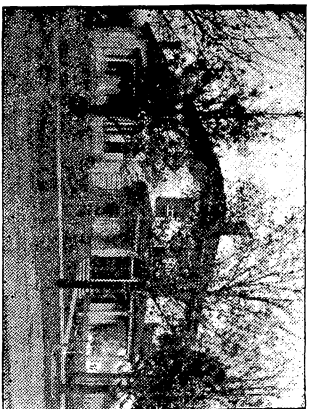
About this time the Fleming post office was established. J. W. Smith was its first postmaster and the office was located in his residence which stood nearly opposite to the present farm residence of Frank Hecox, on the Grand River road. It was afterwards moved to six corners where it was maintained until some time after free rural delivery was established.

The Marr burying ground was also established in the early '40s.

The old general training days were seasons of revelry more or less important from the first, but their amount in this county were of a comparatively small importance before 1843. As far back as the days of Amos Adams there were some things accomplished in this line and that gentleman painted a flag for use on these occasions, which is still in existence, a treasured relic in the home of George W. Monroe. In 1843 a regiment was organized in this county with Col. Timothy R. Allison of Pinckney, in command. By an order dated Feb. 7, 1843, he divided the county into company beats, Handy and Howell being assigned to



BAPTIST CHURCH



BAPTIST PARSONAGE

one beat. The company from this beat was comparatively well organized with Ralph Fowler of Fowlerville, as captain. The troops were mustered in on old public square, but a portion of the forty sold to M. J. and Alexander McPherson, by Mrs. A. L. Crittenden soon after her husband's death was prepared for training purposes. The general poor success of trainings of this character, to secure the desired results, caused the repeal of the law soon after the above date and ended all extensive efforts of that character in Howell.

The early pioneers were patriots as strong as many who have come after them. The first Fourth of July celebration in this city was held under temperance auspices, in 1844, in the grove where the Presbyterian church now stands. No attempt was made at fireworks or other evening demonstration.

Manufacturing in a pioneer way, took quite a boom about this time. Andrew L. Hill opened a wagon shop in 1842. Mr. Hill made the first cutter in town for Philander Glover. It was afterwards purchased by Judge Turner who located here in 1840. In 1846 W. K. Melvin and James Lawther opened the "Arcade shops" and put up the building which years after, was built over into the Commercial Hotel. In 1844, Hickey and Galloway erected a foundry on the site of Mrs. L. V. D. Cook's residence south of the tunnel. They not only manufactured all kinds of agricultural implements, but all kinds of stoves, kettles, etc. The shops were successively owned by

Lemuel Spooner and Edward Thompson, W. O. Archer and lastly by Abigail W. Smith and Dexter Filkins, They were burned while the latter gentlemen owned them. Dr. Z. H. Marsh settled here in 1847.

The shores of time in this vicinity are lined with wrecks of select schools and other private educational institutions. The earliest of these was by Theodore Bridgeman who opened his Howell Select School in 1845, in the old Presbyterian church. The school lived only a little while and died in time to make room for the Clasical Select School which was started in December of that year by Rev. G. F. McEwen, but this enterprise soon kept company with its predecessor. Mrs. Mariah L. Charles was the next and her select school was quite an institution in the summer of 1846.

The Howell Academy was opened April 1, 1846, and promised to be quite an institution but the promises were never realized. The failure of the academy led to the organization of a stock company of \$10,000, composed of Josiah Turner, F. C. Whipple, Elijah F. Burt, Alvan Isbell, Gardner Wheeler, George W. Lee, John Kenyon Jr., Almon Whipple and Edward E. Gregory. This firm never did anything beyond the procurement of its charter.

The old frame school house proved entirely inadequate for the growth of the town and early in the forties agitation for a new one began to grow. An appropriation for a new building was made in 1845, but was reconsidered. A fight between sections north and south of Grand River street was fully developed

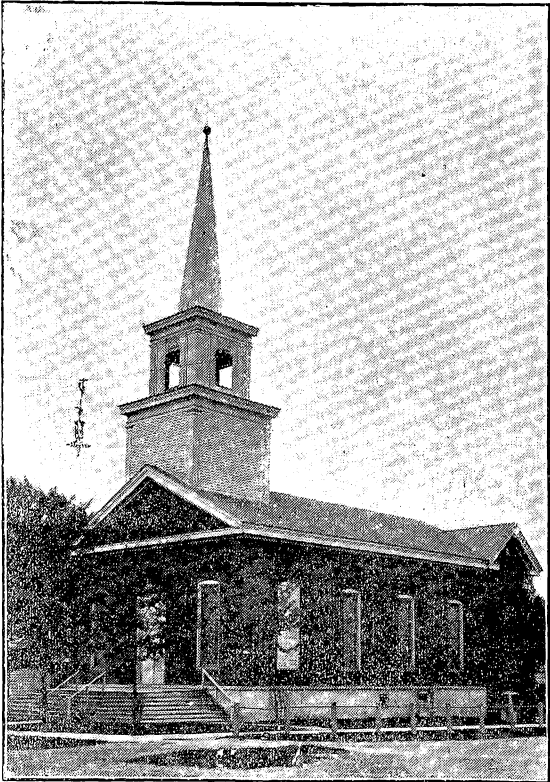
and lasted several years. The north side was never strong enough to secure the location although they managed to secure south-siders enough to change every location decided upon from 1845 to 1849, and kept the ball rolling from the old public square, the present site of the M. E. Church, and others, until its final location on the present site of the central school building, December 15, 1848. The question of location would no doubt have continued much longer had not a resolution been passed in September, 1848, instructing the district board to sell the school house which they did and rented rooms in the Stage House for school purposes, John Dickson being employed to teach there. The first proposition was to build a two story brick school house, thirty-eight by forty-eight feet in size but a resolution to this effect created considerable opposition as the proposition to build a "castle" The size was changed to twenty-six by thirty-six feet and the building built for \$10,000, by Elijah Coffren. Willis Wills was the first teacher in the new building.

In 1849, a dissolution arose in the Presbyterian church and Charles Clark, Mrs. Mariah Clark, Zebulon M. Drew, Edward F. Gay, Mrs. Clarssa L. Gay, Benjamine W. Cardell and wife drew out of that church and organized a Congregational church.

The Bible society was organized in 1842 and did considerable work until 1846. A new society was organized in 1849 which has been allowed to lapse al-

though a small stock of Bibles still remained in the care of J. L. Pettibone Esq. until his health failed a few years ago.

About this time the prevailing epidemic of fun making took a setback. The wife of a blacksmith named Rorabacher died. Her bereaved husband failed to wait a sufficient time after her funeral, to suit his neighbors ideas of propriety, before he married his second wife. One result of this condition of affairs was the arrangement for a regular old fashioned horning. The late Dr. Huntington who was always ready for fun was solicited to captain the horning party but he declined the honor and decided to present a counter attraction. Accordingly he arranged with a couple of confederates and the three crawled up near Rorabacher's house unobserved by its occupants who were all unconscions of what awaited them. In time the horning party arrived, led by Benjamin Spring who was literally covered with sleigh-bells. As he approached at the head of his crowd, the doctor and his party opened upon them with double barrelled shot guns. Spring cut and run, nor would he go back. Some little noise was started however, but word came from the house that the bride had been scared into hysterics and the doctor had a patient on his hands. It took very little coaxing to send the crowd away for the joke was so badly on Spring because of his scare, that everyone pulled him back to his hotel to liquor up at his expense. The



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

whole thing figured out so hard against him that he was never anxious to lead again in anything of that kind and as Sliter moved to Deerfield the two leaders were out of it and things quieted down a bit.

There were great tracts of land all around, which were unfenced and cattle were allowed to run at large during the days. Occasionally one would come up missing and the theory usually was that it had wandered into some of the marshes and mired out of sight. Johnathan Austin lost a cow and after awhile, gave it up as lost. Some months later a neighbor told him that he had seen his cow pasturing on the public square. Mr. Austin went to the square and finding a cow which looked like his, drove her home. Then Z. M. Drew's cow was reported lost. In time it was reported to Mr. Drew that Johnathan Austin had his cow and he went to claim it. Both men were sure the cow was theirs and a law suit was the result. Both were leading members of the Presbyterian church and there was quite a little row kicked up in church circles over the matter. The trial created no end of interest. Both sides presented leading citizens who positively identified the cow and everything looked like an even strength for both sides of the case. Shortly before time for adjournment for supper, Dr. Huntington who was one of the jurors casually asked witnesses on both sides as to the milking qualities. Austin's witnesses agreed that his cow was a hard milker, while Drew's witnesses testified that his cow was a very

easy milker. The case went to the jury in the evening and they returned a verdict in a few minutes, unanimous for Drew. During the intermission the doctor quietly went and milked the cow. As soon as they reached the jury room he told his companions what he had done. The fact that she was an easy milker settled the case. In those early days however, it didn't settle the row.

Another case about that time will remain a standing joke of the county as long as the pioneers remain. A man had been arrested for stealing and was taken into Circuit Court where he stated that he had no money and Attorney Hawkins was appointed to defend him. Mr. Hawkins told the court that he did not want to go to trial without talking with his client and was allowed to go into a room alone with him. He is said to have asked the fellow if he was guilty and was answered that he was. To his enquiry as to whether they could prove it his client said that he guessed that they could for they found the stolen property with him. Hawkins asked him how much money he had and took half of it. He then pointed to a window and told the prisoner to "git." He "got" and Hawkins went off over town. After awhile the sheriff hunted him up and told him the judge wanted to see him. Hawkins is said to have sauntered leisurely into the court room. When he entered alone the judge enquired where the prisoner was. Mr. Hawkins replied courteously that he was not the prisoner's keeper and finally said that

the last he saw of him he went through a window. The judge hurried officers after him but he was free.

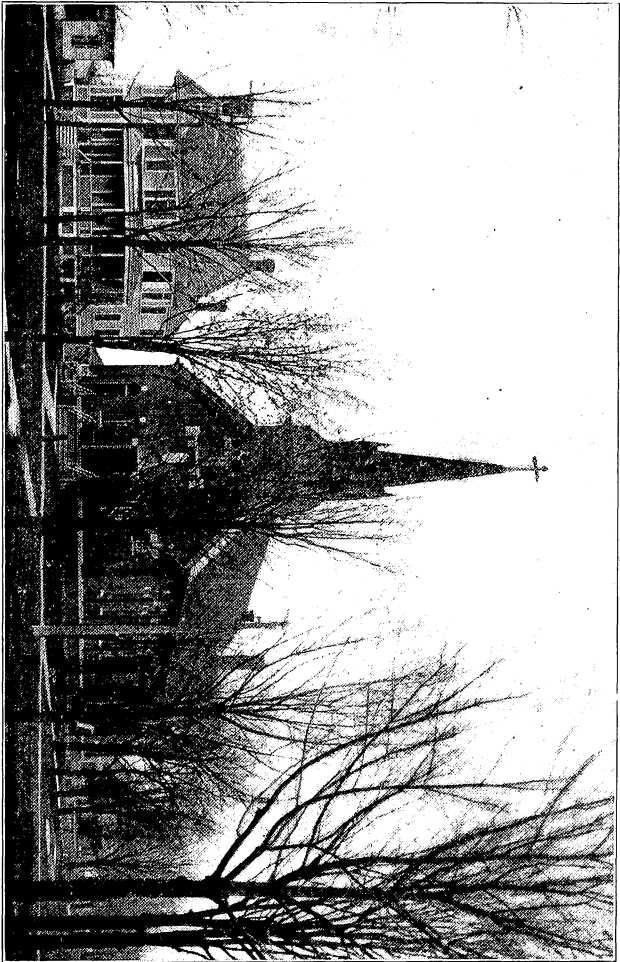
Another law suit which is still told of by the old citizens was one in which Ira Brayton was defendant. He had become indebted to one of the early pioneers in the sum of twenty dollars and had given a mortgage on three fine yokes of cattle worth several times that amount, but was not able to raise the money and his creditor expected to take the cattle. So sure was he of securing them that he solicited jobs of "breaking up" new land expecting to do the work with these cattle. Ezra Frisbee finally decided to help Mr. Brayton out. Constable Durfee who was long remembered because he always went barefooted, was the officer in the case and learned of Mr. Frisbee's intentions. As soon as the bidding reached the amount of the debt and costs, he struck the cattle off to Mr. Frisbee who left them with Mr. Brayton. In his efforts to save himself Mr. Brayton had acquired a judgement which another man held against his creditor, and had placed this with Constable Durfee for collection. As soon as Mr. Frisbee placed the money on a table to pay for the cattle the constable levied upon enough to satisfy this judgment and the grinding creditor got out of the whole transaction considerably in the hole.

While most of the pioneers made the best of things and put up with privations, there were those who missed the luxuries of the outside world. Among these was a man named Betts who settled in the north

west part of town in the early forties. He came from New York and was always lamenting the fact that he could not enjoy what his neighbors put up with. One morning it was found that he had taken poison and was dead. This was the first experience of this character and was quite a shock for the pioneer settlers.

Dr. Gardner Wheeler's location in Howell as the first physician here was noted in a previous chapter. He was followed in 1839, by Dr. Charles A. Jeffries who remained here until 1843 when he moved to Washtenaw county. Dr. William Huntington succeeded to his practice when he left Howell and remained here until his death. His son Dr. Wm. C. Huntington practiced with his father for many years and succeeded to the extensive practice which he built.

Dr. Nichols Hard located here in 1841 and remained for two years. Dr. E. F. Olds moved here in 1843 but never practiced a great deal. He was a fine penman and taught writing school while here. Dr. William Dowlman came here from England in 1846, but never practiced a great deal. He was a Methodist local preacher and did considerable work in that line in the western part of the county. He served as regular pastor at Stevenson in the upper peninsula in the latter '70s and as far as known never came back here. Dr. Thomas R. Spence located in Howell in 1846 and had an extensive practice for about six years, when he moved to Detroit. Dr. Andrew



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH AND RECTORY

Blanck settled here in 1848 and held a leading place in his profession for a good many years. Dr. Wm. L. Wells settled in Howell in 1849 and enjoyed a very extensive practice for the rest of his life.

Attorney Wellington A. Glover, Howell's first lawyer, was about two years alone in his profession here and then Josiah W. Turner came in 1840. Soon after settling here Judge Turner was appointed master in chancery. He also became deputy county clerk under Jesse Mapes who held the office at that time, and did the work of the office. Mr. Mapes resigned in February, 1842, and the young lawyer was appointed to the position. That coming fall he was elected to the office and again in 1844. In November 1846, he was elected county judge and re-elected in 1850. In 1856 he was elected Judge of Probate. In May, 1857 he was appointed, Judge of the Supreme Court. In the November election of that year he was elected Circuit Judge to which he was re-elected three times. In 1860 Judge Turner moved to Owosso, to be nearer the center of his circuit. He continued to make that his home until his death in 1907. He held several important governmental positions after moving to Owosso. In his early years in Howell, he attended to the duties of his official positions, engaged in other lines of business, and built up a nice law practice. Soon after coming here he built the office building just south of the city building, and a residence on the lot now vacant, opposite Fishbeck

Bros. shoe shop. He afterward built the house at the corner of Fleming and Hubbell streets, now occupied by R. C. Reed, which was his home for a good many years.

Fredrick C. Whipple who settled in Brighton in 1841 and was the founder of the Livingston Courier, moved to Howell with the paper, in 1846 and practiced law here for twenty-two years. He served the county as Circuit Court Commissioner, Prosecuting Attorney and Judge of Probate at various times. He was a brilliant lawyer and was recognized as a leading jury lawyer of the state.

Lauren K. Hewett settled here in 1842 and practiced law for about fifteen years. His brother Lewis H. Hewett was associated with him here for some years. Richard B. Hall practiced law here from 1843 to 1848. He afterwards went to California where he became a detective of some considerable note.

James H. Ackerson became a lawyer here in 1843. His practice has the reputation of sharp dodging rather than profound law. A story is told that he was employed to defend a man who was guilty of larceny. Ackerson saw defects in the papers and arranged with his man to break them and then run him off while they were drawing new ones. For this purpose he rode one horse and led another when he went out to the country justice's for the examination. The scheme worked and the prisoner got safely away on the extra horse.

John B. Dillingham commenced the practice of law here about 1845, and had a good business for about fourteen years. He moved to Saginaw in 1859. While here on a visit and business trip sometime later, he was taken suddenly sick and died.

Justin Lawyer settled here to practice law in 1846 but only remained a few years, moving from here to Union City, Branch county, from where he afterwards moved to Coldwater. He died very suddenly a few years ago, leaving a handsome property. His widow who is remembered here as a most eccentric character, never admits anyone inside the door of her palacial home and never leaves it in the daytime if she can possibly avoid doing so. Practically all her connection with the outside world is done with her telephone.

Charles C. Ellsworth, first landlord of Gay's temperance hotel, studied law with Judge Turner and was admitted to the bar here in 1848. He married a daughter of Mr. Gay and moved to Greenville in 1851, where he became prominent in his profession and in politics. He served that district in Congress with some little distinction. Another of Judge Turner's students was John F. Farnsworth who afterwards became a Congressman from an Illinois district.

William A. Clark moved here from Brighton, while prosecuting attorney, about 1851. In the early '60s he moved to Saginaw.

As noted previously Rev. Edward E. Gregory settled in Howell in 1839. He lived for some time in

Rev. Henry Root's unfinished house and as he used to say, "Cooked by a stump in the street," at that time he tried farming on his farm three miles away. In 1845 he became pastor of the Presbyterian church here and served faithfully in that position for two years. With the exception of a short time in Owosso, Mr. Gregory continued to reside in Howell until his death in 1884. He was of a quiet and unassuming nature but of sterling Christian character. His name was associated with all the organizations for moral uplift in the early days of this community.

Joseph B. Skilbeck opened a shoe shop in Howell about 1840. His business was gradually developed into a general store which he carried on for a number of years, acquiring a good property which kept him in plenty in his declining years.

John R. Neely came here about the same time as Mr. Skilbeck. He was a mason by trade, the pioneer in that line of business to live here. Several of the older buildings are monuments of his labor.

Joseph Rowe the pioneer tailor was another to arrive about that time.

The Livingston Courier, a five column folio paper, was the first published in the county. Its first issue was at Brighton on January 10, 1843. Nicholas Sullivan was its first publisher and Frederick C. Whipple was its first editor. Early in October, 1843, it was moved to Howell by its publisher and Lewis H. Hewett was employed as editor. Its first issue in

Howell was October 11. About three years after moving to Howell, Mr. Sullivan sold the Courier to E. R. Powell and it was afterwards owned by William B. Smith and George P. Root. Under Mr. Root's management the paper died in 1856. A few advertisements from the Courier of May 10, 1848, may be of interest:

"The Livingston Courier will be issued every Wednesday morning, at the village of Howell, Livingston County, Michigan, E. R. Powell editor and proprietor. Terms: One dollar and fifty cents per annum in advance otherwise two dollars will be required in every case."

"Hewett & Hall, Attorneys and Councillors at Law and Solicitors in Chancery, office over Lee's store, Howell, Livingston county, Mich. L. H. Hewett, Prosecuting Attorney. R. B. Hall, Notary Public."

"L. K. Hewett, Attorney and Counselor, Circuit Court Commissioner. Office opposite the Public Square, Howell."

"Z. H. Marsh, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, Office one door east of the Post Office, Howell, Liv. Co. Mich."

"A. S. Hollister, Watch Maker, Clocks, Watches, Jewelry, &c., of every description, cleaned, repaired and warranted. Shop one door east of the Livingston Hotel."

"John W. Smith, Justice of the Peace, Office one door west of the Post Office, over W. Riddle's store, Howell, Mich."

“Livingston Hotel, by N. Sullivan, Howell, Livingston County, Michigan.”

“Union Hall, by N. Smith, Howell, Mich.”

“New Harness Shop, opposite the Court House, kept by A. Hiscock.”

“Physic & Surgery. The undersigned having formed a partnership for the purpose of practicing the above profession, will be ready at all times, (unless engaged in professional business) to attend such as may require their services. Gardner Wheeler. Thomas R. Spence.”

Advertisements also appeared for Clark & Hopkins and W. A. Buckland, general merchants; Bush & Co. grocers, and L. K. Hewett, wheat buyer. The only item of local news in the whole paper read as follows: “Going Ahead. Our village is progressing with rapid strides; building after building is arising on either hand, while the hand-saw and hammer of the carpenters almost deafen one. Tearing down, drawing off and rebuilding, is the order of the day. Messrs. Hinman & Bush and Hewett & Huntley have commenced the cellar for a large two-story brick block to be occupied as stores and offices. Onward is the march of empire. We are creditably informed that the entire stock of the Plank road from Detroit through this place to the capitol, will soon be taken and finished to this place. We opine such good luck for the present.”

CHAPTER VI.

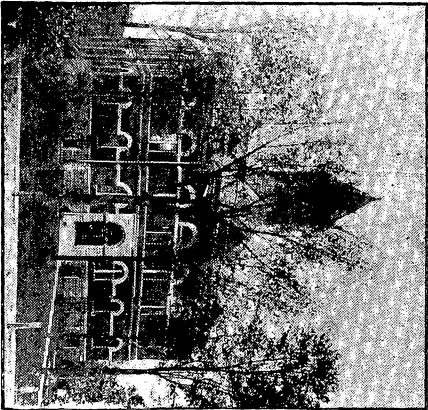
For Early Travel.

Indian trails were the first roads in this section. They formed the highways over which the pioneers came to their wilderness homes. Occasionally the wagons would come up against the trees which grew so near together that one must be cut before they could get through. The beginnings could hardly be detailed as such, but somehow the march of progress turned these indian trails into roads.

July 4th, 1832, Congress passed an act directing the president to appoint three commissioners to lay out a road for military and other purposes, from Detroit through Shiawassee county to the mouth of the Grand river. The sum of \$2,500 was expended during the next two years, in opening and grading the first ten miles out. In 1835, Congress apportioned \$25,000 more, which opened the road one hundred feet wide through the timber, and built bridges as far as the Cedar river. A grant of five thousand acres of land was also secured for the Grand river and Saginaw roads, of which our road received its share. While the work thus provided for was in progress Michigan became a state. Soon after Judge Turner

came to Howell in 1840, he became interested in the project. The road, which he found opened to Brighton, was gradually worked through Howell, and nearly to Fowlerville, largely by his efforts for state appropriations and other ways of securing funds for that purpose. In the spring of 1841, \$5,000 was transferred by the State Legislature from the "Northern Wagon Road," to the "Grand River Turnpike," with which it was opened to Lansing. This appropriation was increased by the addition of "non resident taxes" for all land within two miles of the road along the line of the improvement. The legislature of 1845, passed an act providing that 10,000 acres of internal improvement lands be appropriated to improving the Grand River road from Howell to what is now Lansing, then the village of Michigan, six thousand acres in Ingham county and four thousand acres in Livingston county. With the aid of a large number of private subscriptions which were secured, this appropriation added to what had gone before, put the road west of Howell in fairly good condition.

Before this time the stage lines heretofore mentioned, were doing a thriving business from Howell to Detroit. About 1842 or '43, Ralph Fowler who had become very much interested in the road west of town because of his connection with it as commissioner, and C. B. Williams of Williamston, put a line of lumber wagons to running between Howell and Lansing, which rapidly developed into another stage line in that direction.



LIVINGSTON COUNTY COURT HOUSE

The first Legislature of Michigan went on record for roads. Acts were passed for state roads everywhere where any one suggested them. If a very small percentage of those provided for had come to be roads, the pioneers would have vied with present day tax conditions. Among those which would have come to Howell was a road from Allegan to Hastings, to Charlotte, to Mason, to Howell, to intersect with the Grand River road here. F. J. B. Crane of Howell, was one of its commissioners. The next Legislature seems to have insisted that something be done for this road for another act was passed for the same line. Guy C. Lee was named as commissioner in this act in place of Mr. Crane. In 1838 the same line was again provided for except that in describing it, the line was reversed, the description commencing at Howell. George W. Jewett was one of the commissioners named in this act. It seems to have been a case of three times and out however, for the road was never built.

In 1840 an act was passed providing for a state road from Milford to Howell but it was never opened.

While the proposed line failed to touch Howell the canal fever which swept through this section about 1837 should be noted in this connection. The Legislature appropriated \$20,000 for the surveys. Three lines were proposed which touched the county, The one which promised most was to commence at Mt,

Clemens on the Clinton river and ran to the mouth of the Kalamazoo river. It crossed Crooked lake in this county. A branch canal was promoted from Crooked lake along the Huron river to Dexter, and a company was chartered for its construction. As late as 1845 the agitation for these water routes had life but they too died in the paper stages of the enterprise.

In 1843 a rail road project was started but farmers all along the line strongly opposed it on the ground that it would injure their teaming trade and make it unprofitable for them to keep so many horses, thus forcing them back to oxen for their farm work. Partially as an outgrowth of this rail road agitation there grew up a sentiment for a plank road which materialized the next year when the Legislature passed an act appointing Charles P. Bush and Ely Barnard of Livingston county and Levi Cook, John Blindbury and David Thompson of Wayne County as a board of commissioners to solicit stock to build the "Detroit and Grand River Plank Road." Quite an amount was secured but no where near the \$50,000 which the charter provided for and the project was given up.

In 1850 another plank road enterprise was started. George W. Lee, Josiah Turner, B. W. Dennis, F. S. Prevost and Noah Ramsdell were appointed commissioners by act of the Legislature, to solicit stock for the building of a plank road from Howell to

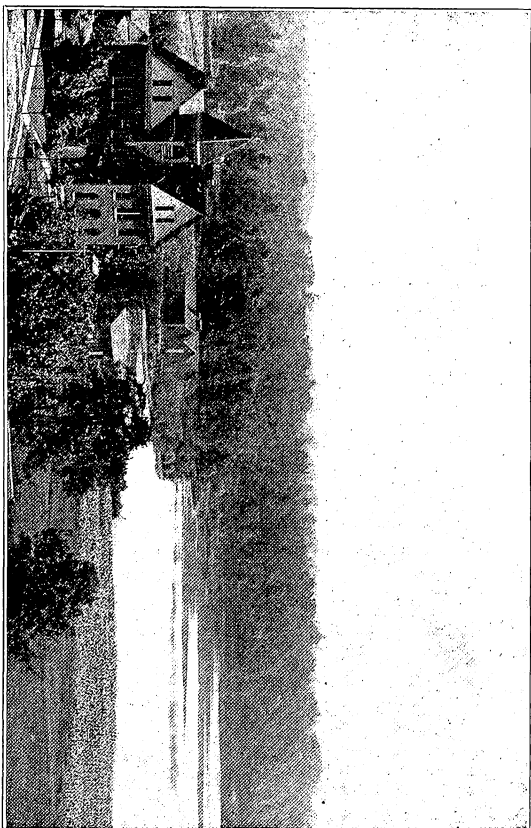
Byron. The next year the act was amended by making Nathaniel Turner and Harvey T. Lee commissioners in place of B. W. Dennis and F. J. Prevost. The \$30,000 required by their charter was never secured but enough was raised to make the promoters sure that it would pull through and their company was organized by electing George W. Lee, president, Josiah Turner secretary and treasurer.

April 3, 1848, a company was incorporated with a capital stock of one-hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, to build a plank road from Detroit to Howell, also from a point on this road to Waterford, also from some other point on the line, to Milford. The company was empowered to increase its stock twenty-five thousand dollars at some future time, and then to extend its main line from Howell to "the village of Michigan," now Lansing. A commission was selected to solicit stock, as follows: Henry Ledyard and A. S. Bagg of Detroit, Joseph M. Mead of Plymouth, Augustus C. Baldwin of Milford, and Josiah Turner of Howell. By its charter this company was empowered "to enter upon and take possession" of the Detroit and Grand River road.

Hon. C. C. Trowbridge of Detroit, became president of the company and Henry Ledyard, also of Detroit, secretary and treasurer. The commission made a vigorous canvass and soon had enough money to warrant commencing work. During the year 1850 the plank was laid to Howell and the great enterprise be-

came a fact. The financial success of the Detroit and Howell road was assured long before the planks were all laid. This caused the organization of another company which secured its incorporation in the spring of 1850. James Seymour, Hiram H. Smith, Ephraim B. Danforth, George W. Lee and Frederick C. Whipple were the commission to solicit sixty thousand dollars of stock. Their company was given the Grand River road from Lansing to Howell. They had raised enough to commence work by that fall and two years later, had the road completed. In these days it is hard to grasp the value of such a road to the development of all this part of Michigan. It opened the way for the hundreds of teams which daily passed over it. The old stages which were little more than lumber wagons, gave place to four horse vehicles which carried from twelve to twenty persons each.

When the planks wore out and rotted away the company filled the gaps with gravel which became more and more substantial until the early '70s when public sentiment against the tollgates became so great that everyone could see that they were not to stand much longer. The companies took off their repair forces and allowed the road to run down gradually, until the people would stand it no longer, and in 1881 they ceased to collect toll here. They hung on in other parts of the line until some years later. The old tollgate houses were moved back and sold



EAST WARD SCHOOL AND ATHLETIC FIELD

for residences. Charters of the companies provided for gates every five miles. As Howell was the end of both roads, each company maintained a gate here the one just in the eastern part of town and the other at the brow of the hill just west of the village. This arrangement made it impossible for anyone to get in or out of town without paying the cent per mile they traveled on that road, for each horse they drove. It seems a nominal amount but it was a big enterprise in the early day and paid a large income on the investment before the railroad came here.

In this connection it may be well to review the railroad projects and development here. A few miles beyond Brighton is a little settlement of very old houses and a one-story brick building. This old town is Kensington. In the very early days it had a few aggressive men who sought to build a city there. The brick building was their "Wild Cat" bank. Its failure with the consequent loss to people all through this section, was their death blow. In whatever enterprise their names appeared after that, the people turned against it. In 1837 a railroad was projected from Detroit to Farmington, to Kensington, to Howell, to Byron, to Shiawassee village. It is noticeable that the charter provided that the company should not only have the right to propel cars by steam power, but by animals or a combination of any power they should decide upon. The commission to solicit stock for this enterprise had two

members from Kensington who were prominent in the work, and the people refused to take hold with them. Even the names of such thoroughly reliable men as Ely Barnard of Howell, and others along the line who were members of the commission, did not suffice to give the people confidence and they would not take hold.

In 1847, there was another railroad project here. George W. Lee, L. K. Hewett and E. F. Burt were the Howell portion of the committee which worked it up. They created quite a sentiment and raised considerable money here. Other parts of the line failed to bring up their portion however and the company never went far enough to even organize.

June 17, 1864 a meeting was held at New Hudson in response to a sentiment which had long been growing, and the Detroit and Howell Railroad Company was organized. The board of directors elected at that time contained the names of John H. Galloway, E. F. Burt, R. C. Rumsey, Joseph H. Wilcox, Ely Barnard, William McPherson and Marcus B. Wilcox of Howell. The directors organized by electing Theodatus T. Lyon, president; E. F. Burt, secretary; William McPherson, treasurer and Marcus B. Wilcox, attorney. The capital stock was placed at \$400,000 in shares of fifty dollars each. Hiram Newman, Isaac W. Bush, P. B. Holdridge, Giles Tucker and J. M. Swife were appointed a commission to secure the stock.

There was a unity of purpose in Howell at that day

which surmounts every **obstacle**. Led by William McPherson, who was more active in the work and more ready to sacrifice his time and labor than probably any other, the people went after the great project they had undertaken. A year later \$250,000 had been subscribed, and in September, 1866, President Lyon announced that \$300,000 had been secured. This was the sum agreed upon when work should begin.

It required another year to secure the surveys and preliminary engineering and then grading commenced. Many will remember that day when the crowd gathered near a low place of ground not far from where the water tank at the Howell station now stands, to see the first dirt move for the new railroad. William McPherson wheeled the first load; James Donnelly the second and George Greenaway the third. A number of Howell people followed, one after another. It was a standing subject for talk that Mr. McPherson wheeled his load easier than any other of the older men who tried it.

Some stock subscriptions failed to materialize but the company pushed on with all the money it could secure. When about \$240,000 had been expended their funds gave out and they were obliged to quit. They had accomplished enough however to insure the building of the road and that was what they wanted.

In 1868 another company was organized to build a railroad from Howell to Lansing. Howell people were bending all their energies for the Detroit road

and only a few became financially interested in the new line. Joseph H. Wilcox was one of its board of directors however. They secured most of the franchises and right of way and had accomplished considerable of the preliminary work when the other company was obliged to suspend its operations.

The work accomplished on the Detroit and Howell line had already attracted considerable attention in financial circles. When the company was obliged to quit, James F. Joy and other Detroit capitalists interested themselves. Learning that all the old company wanted was the construction of the road, they proposed to enter into bonds to do this if the old company would give them what they had, and they could also acquire the holdings of the Lansing and Howell company. These terms were accepted. Mr. Joy and his associates at once organized what they called the Detroit, Lansing and Lake Michigan R. R. Company, and took up the work under their contract. A newly opened road from Lansing to Ionia was also acquired by the company shortly after they commenced operations.

True to their agreements the new company went vigorously to work at both ends of the line. In May, 1871 the eastern end was opened to Brighton, and three months later this whole county turned out to a great celebration at Fowlerville, addressed by Dennis Shields of Howell, which celebrated the advent of the iron horse in that village. August 22, 1871 the



BROWN'S GREENHOUSE, HOWELL

line was formally opened with an excursion train from Detroit to Keywood five miles beyond Greenville.

The Detroit Post in reporting the trip said:

“At Howell the train was received with something of an ovation. A six-pound cannon had been brought into service and fired a salute as the train moved up to the depot, where were assembled an immense concourse of people who testified their gratification at the arrival of the party by cheers and waving of handkerchiefs. Ladies distributed bouquets. The people are enthusiastic over the arrival of the iron horse in their town and though the assemblage was impromptu, it clearly indicated the joy which they feel over the completion of the railroad for which they have worked and waited for so many long years. Their enthusiasm is pardonable. The town has a population of over two thousand, is one of the handsomest in the state and next to Lansing, probably the most important on the line of the road.”

The road like most business projects, has seen its ups and downs, but has nearly always been a paying property. Its name was changed to the Detroit, Lansing and Northern, not long after it commenced running. It was acquired by the Pere Marquette system a few years ago, and is now operating under that name.

As far back as 1869, Ex-Governor Ashley of Toledo, proposed the construction of a railroad through Howell from that city, to the north. His company

was organized in Ann Arbor, Oct. 28 of that year and about \$20,000 of capital stock was secured in this county. Right of way was secured from Toledo to Ann Arbor, but as only about five per-cent of the amount subscribed north of that place, was paid in, the road left its original line and ran to South Lyon which was its northern terminal for a number of years. Gov. Ashley was one of those men who never give up however, and with his sons, Harry and James M. Ashley, kept at the project of extending northward. In 1888 their work was crowned with success and the Toledo, Ann Arbor and North Michigan R. R. was completed through Howell to Frankfort on Lake Michigan. A few years later a system of large transfer steamers was established across Lake Michigan to Menominee, and the road became a leading trunk line to the northwest, adopting as its trademark the claim that it was the "Key to Michigan." Its name has been changed a number of times as its owners have changed but for several years past it has been known as "The Ann Arbor Line."

When this road sought to cross the old road just south of Howell, they were refused the right of way. The tracks were laid up to the old road's right of way on both sides and one stormy Saturday night, a large gang of men were brought in from the south. By daylight Sunday morning a hole had been dug under the old road and their tracks were united. The next day an armed guard was posted there and a bridge which

had been prepared for the place, was put in. Officials of the two roads held a conference Sunday evening and seemed to get together. The new company was thrown off its guard and withdrew its forces. Early Monday morning the work train of the Detroit, Lansing and Northern appeared on the scene with a load of necessary material, and filled the cut under the bridge. Then ensued a series of digging out and filling up lasting for some time. A compromise was finally effected whereby the new road was moved to the west several rods and a grade crossing with a station which for years was known as Howell Junction, was secured. It is now known as Ann-Pere.

A very spirited indignation meeting of Howell citizens was held at the court house during the quarrel.

The first train north from here carried a party of Howell businessmen who paid two dollars apiece and spent the afternoon in Owosso.

CHAPTER VII

Before the War

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows antedate all other secret orders in Howell, as their old lodge was instituted by N. B. Nye, D. D. G. M. of Ann Arbor, on September 5th, 1849. Its first officers installed were: N. G., Josiah Turner; V. G., L. K. Hewett; Secretary, J. B. Dillingham; Treasurer, Lemuel Spooner. The lodge had quite a prosperous existance for a number of years, but finally ceased to exist.

That same year, a dispensation was granted from the grand lodge by the power of which the Howell Masonic lodge began working. It was not chartered until January 10, 1850. Its number is 38. The lodge home has been successively in the Einman block where the Hubbell block now stands, Lee block where Topping block now stands, old Greenaway block, Weimeister block, old Winans block and the present Masonic temple. The early Worshipful Masters were consecutively, Amos Adams, Gardner, Wheeler, Henry H. Harmon, Frederick C. Whipple, Sardias F. Hubbell, Frank Wells, Sardias F. Hubbell, Milo L. Gay, Joseph T. Titus, William C. Rumsey, Joseph T. Titus, Albert Riddle, Sardias F. Hubbell, Albert Hathaway, Sardias F. Hubbell, Walter D. Whalen, John W. Wright, and Rollin H. Person.

During Mr. Hathaway's term he moved away and William L. Knapp Senior Warden, filled out the term.

The Howell foundry long managed by John M. and George L. Clark, was built in 1849, by Stephen Clark, for the manufacture of stoves and agricultural castings. In 1859, it was purchased by George U. Taylor and George L. Clark. Taylor sold his interest to Geo. L. Clark, who sold a half to John H. Galloway, in 1864. F. S. Wykoff and H. B. Blackman were taken into the firm in 1867, and William Williamson soon after bought Mr. Galloway's interest, the firm becoming known as Wykoff, Clark & Co., which it continued, until 1874, when it was changed to Wykoff, Clark & Inman. In December, 1876, the whole plant, which had become at that time the most important manufacturing enterprise of the town, was purchased by Josiah M. Clark, who afterwards died and it was then owned by J. M. Clark & Co., who did a general iron and wood manufacturing business. Their trade in the Howell hand car became world wide, a large number having been shipped to other countries. Their manufacture of the Howell tubular axel wagon was also quite extensive. They gradually ran out however, and finally quit for want of finances. The buildings were torn down to clear the square for the Carnegie Library.

The Howell grist mill at the foot of Thompson's lake was commenced by George W. and Fredrick J. Lee in 1849 and completed during the following year.

A few years later George W. Lee became sole owner. He sold to William Williamson and it has since been owned by Zebulon M. Drew, Thomas Birkett, William Y. Munson and Calvin Wilcox, Thomas Hoyland, Thomas Hoyland & Son, and George Hoyland. The present proprietor is A. O. Hutchins. The mill has always done a good business and is now shipping a large amount of flour in addition to its custom trade.

In 1850 Shubael B. Sliter commenced the erection of a steam saw mill on the site of the present City Mills. He soon sold part of the business to D. D. Chandler and George W. Kneeland who afterwards became sole owners. The mill was burned in 1851.

The mill sawed quite an amount of the plank for the two plank roads when they were built. After the fire Judge Kneeland became sole proprietor and rebuilt it. The engine put in after the fire was built by B. C. and H. B. Curtis, and was the first one built in Howell. Aiken Holloway, John Hoyt, J. R. Axtell, J. I. VanDusen, Taylor & VanDusen and VanDusen & Whipple, were successive proprietors. Under the management of the last firm the mill was remodeled into a grist mill, and soon after that change became the property of Latson & Wright. It was afterwards purchased by E. C. Wright & Sons who made an assignment in July, 1888. The mill was bought by John Birkhart, who rebuilt it and put in a full outfit of new machinery making it one of the best in this section. It has been owned by C. A. Parshall

for some years past and is doing a large business. Mr. Parshall has continued the spirit of improvement since he became the owner, and has put in a large amount of new machinery.

The Phoenix Foundry and Machine Shop, at the south-west corner of Division and Sibley streets, was built by A. W. Smith & Co., after the burning of the old Galloway foundry in 1857. The foundry was burned February 22, 1860, at a loss of \$7,200. B. C. and H. B. Curtis built new shops on the same site after the fire. The Curtises sold to Floyd S. Wykoff and the works were afterwards owned by John H. Galloway, Henry B. Curtis and Curtis & Son. The business stopped while the last named firm had it. The first Howell school building was purchased by Mr. Curtis and moved to the south-west corner of his plant where its still stands. The buildings are now occupied by W. N. Snedecor & Son's poultry and egg business.

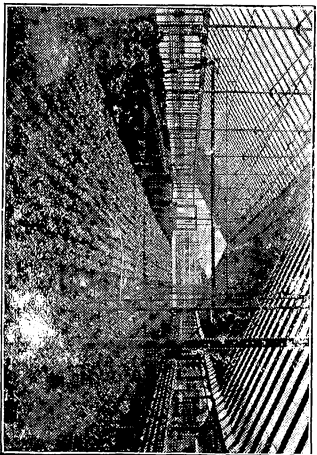
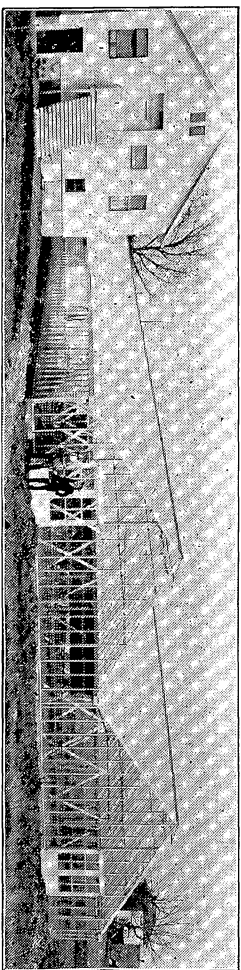
In 1845, an M. E. class was formed at West Howell, with ten members. It was mainly supplied by pastors from Howell. It continued with more or less prosperity, until 1865, when it became crippled by the moving away of several of its members, and soon ceased to exist. Another M. E. class was organized during the pastorate of Jessie Kilpatrick at Howell, but only ran a few years.

About this time, the four corners as they were called, began to assume to be a town. Solomon Sly built

what has long been called the Four Mile House, on the grade west of town, and opened it in 1851. He was afterwards succeeded by Mortimer Townsend who was followed by Thomas Gilchrist who was landlord for a number of years. The old building still stands but long since ceased to be a hotel. The cemeteries on sections seventeen and twenty-two belong to this period, the first having been established in 1850 and the other in 1858.

As previously noted in this history, the district found itself in the winter of 1848-49, without a school house, and a long and tedious fight ensued before final location of the site now occupied by our fine central school building, which was done at a school meeting held on December 15, 1848. It was then resolved to instruct the board to build a school house 38x48 feet in size, two story, at a cost of \$1,000. This proposition met so much opposition by citizens who called the proposed building a "castle," that another meeting was called and the size of the building cut down to 26x36 feet. The building was erected during the coming summer and fall, and was occupied in the winter, William Wills being the first teacher there. In less than a year it was found that the building was too small and rooms were rented for school purposes, outside. This continued until 1856, when by vote of the district, additions were made to the building, larger than its original size.

Cowdry's second addition to the village embraced



HOWELL GREENHOUSE CO., LETTUCE AND CUCUMBERS GROWING

the east half of the north-west quarter of section thirty-five. It contained forty-nine acres near the Byron road. The plat was filed by the administrator of the P. A. Cowdry estate, October 26, 1853.

In the very early days there was an agricultural society in this county, the Livingston County Agricultural Society, but none of the early pioneers whom we have interviewed, know anything about such an organization. A meeting was held at the court house, Thursday February 24 1853, which proceeded to organize a Livingston County Agricultural Society with Ira Jennings, of Green Oak, as president, and a vice president from each township, the one from Howell being Odell J. Smith. Wm. A. Buckland was treasurer and Elijah F. Burt, secretary. The first fair was held at such town as would raise the most money to defray expenses, and by those terms went to Brighton. The next meeting was held on the old public square in Howell, this township having pledged \$200 toward expenses. For a few years it rotated back and forth from Brighton to Howell, but in 1860 the society purchased grounds east of the old toll gate, in Howell, and the first fair held upon the society's own grounds was in September, 1860.

When the Ann Arbor railroad was completed in 1888, it ran between the buildings and race track, thus spoiling the old fair grounds for fair purposes. The association was awarded quite heavy damages from the railroad company and Charles Fishbeck bought

the grounds. New grounds were purchased on the Byron road just outside the village limits and new buildings were erected there. The fair continued annually there for six or eight years and ran out. Some years later, McPherson Brothers took the grounds on a mortgage. William and M. J. McPherson sold their interests to Alexander, and he sold the grounds to W. W. Crittenden.

In 1898, Howell businessmen organized and held a street fair, a leading feature of which was a ladies floral parade. Miss Nellie Brooks was elected queen. Two years later, Miss Julia Benedict was queen. A third was two years later. The latter was much of the carnival order, and has been followed by a carnival by Wixom Bros.

The Livingston Republican was started by H. and L. M. Smith, April 27th, 1855. Their success was somewhat of the up and down order for about four years at the end of which it was considerably on the down grade. George W. Lee was then induced to take hold of it and with his brother Fred Lee and several others, fixed up a sort of stock company arrangement, which gave the publication a good financial backing. George L. Sage became the editor at that time. George W. Lee gradually bought out the interest of the others and by 1862, had the paper well established. It was then sold to James Bowers, who edited it until he died in 1866. After Mr. Bowers' death, the paper was sold to A. D. Waddell and J.

D. Smith. Mr. Smith bought his partner's interest in 1868. He afterwards took Frank H. Marsh as a partner and later successively George W. Axtell, Solomon T. Lyon and E. B. Vanderhoef. In 1877, Smith & Vanderhoef sold the paper to L. C. Miller.

After some years he sold to E. D. and Orrin Stair. In 1889, Stair Brothers sold the Republican to George Barnes who has lately associated his son Albert with him in the publication. In all its list of editors and publishers, Republicans of this county have been fortunate in having at the head of their county organ, men of fearless character, true to their party principles, and good writers.

It was while he was editing the Republican that E. D. Stair wrote "Trixie," which he soon after staged, and which at once became a popular hit, laying the foundation for the handsome fortune which he has acquired by a long run of success in the theatrical world.

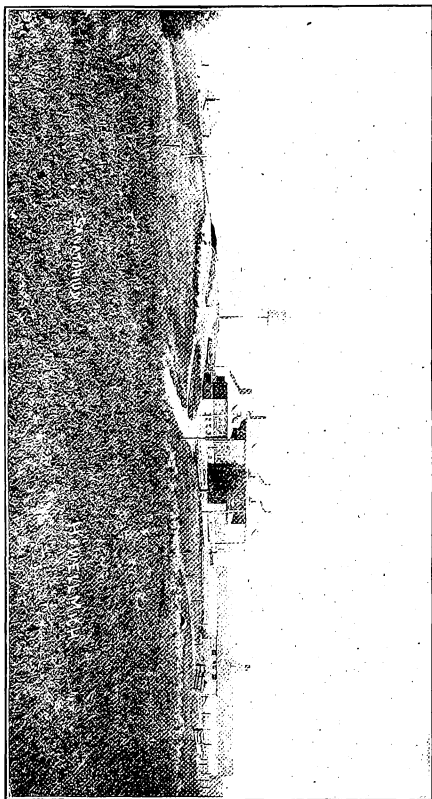
The evolution which has developed some of our present business houses forms interesting parts of Howell's history. Take Monroe Brothers for example. In 1845, George W. and Fred J. Lee started a general store in the old Whipple block, on the site of Monroe Brothers' present store. Two years later, George W. Lee built the first brick store in Howell, a two story building which stood on the ground where Johnson's drug store is now, and their store was moved into it. In 1852, Fred J. Lee sold out to his

brother and built a new store the next door west. The brothers united a for third story over both stores, which was rented to the Masons for a lodge room.

As soon as his new store was completed, Fred J. Lee formed a partnership with Lemuel Spooner and they opened a new store there. After a few years, they sold their business to E. B. Taylor, who, later sold an interest to Fobes Crossman. William B. Jewett also acquired an interest there for a time. George W. Lee finally bought this firm out, when Mr. Taylor went to California. He cut an archway between the two stores and ran them together for some time. When Mr. Lee became quartermaster in the army, he left his business in charge of Alexander McPherson, who had been a clerk there for some time. Mr. McPherson bought an interest in the store about that time.

Henry H. Mills formed an acquaintance with Miss Isabelle McPherson, in college. They were married in 1854, and lived near Kalamazoo for about three years. They came to Howell in 1857 and Mr. Mills began clerking for William McPherson. Soon after Alexander McPherson bought an interest in the business Mr. Mills bought the rest of Mr. Lee's interests. Their stock was moved into the west store. Leander C. Smith rented the corner store and used the west side for the post office, the east side being rented to other parties.

About a year later, Mr. Mills bought his partner's



interests and conducted the business alone for some years when he associated his son with him. The firm of H. H. Mills & Son was a leading one here for many years. William Mills went to Topeka, Kansas, in the late '70s, and laid the foundation for what has developed into the largest general store in that city. His father followed him a few years later.

In 1882, Mr. Mills sold the business to two enterprising young men, who were clerking for him at that time, Dwight D. Monroe and Will J. Carl. A new firm was organized under the name of Monroe, Carl & Co., Mr. Mills remaining in the business as a limited partner to the amount of his interest, which was purchased by the young men after the big fire of 1888, which destroyed the two old store buildings. For a few months after the fire the firm did business in the Opera House block. They made a lease for the new Greenaway block as soon as completed, and have been on that site since.

About the time of the second big fire in 1892, Geo. L. Monroe bought Mr. Carl's interest in the firm, and that gentleman went into business at Muskegon Heights.

In 1901, the general stock was closed out, and the firm have since dealt solely in shoes and wall paper.

Politics were very warm in Howell in the '50s. When Prof. F. W. Munson was employed to superintend the schools here in 1856, there was quite a question whether the board would employ anyone but a

democrat. Prof. Munson had not yet graduated when he came here, and went back to Ypsilanti for that purpose in June. The subject of his oration was "Locks and Keys." After discussing various locks and keys in other countries, Mr. Munson said: "But we need not go to foreign countries. In our own south land there are nearly four million human beings, who send forth the cry, 'Unlock, unlock.'" A Detroit Free Press reporter complimented Mr. Munson on his oration, but criticised that sentence. The papers reached Howell, before Mr. Munson returned, and were the cause of quite a warm welcome when he stepped from the stage here. He was charged with making a black abolition speech, and some people wanted him turned out of school for doing so.

A good story is told by several men who were little boys in the latter part of Prof. Munson's school work here. Frank Whipple had been guilty of something which promised him a whipping, and was shut up in Mr. Munson's office. Several little boys from one of the lower rooms, were out to play. Henry Wilbur ran near enough for the prisoner to call to him and ask him to get him out, before Mr. Munson got back. A hasty consultation was held. One little boy knew where there was a ladder, four or five blocks away, and they went after it. So careful were they that that carried the ladder way around another block, so as not to pass the windows of their own room, or to let their teacher see its shadow, as they raised it.

Frank Whipple got out all right, and the ladder was put back. So well did the boys work it, that no teacher could learn how the escape was made and they never knew until long years after, when the little boys were men, and old school days were talked over.

One day in 1854, a young colored man alighted from the stage at the old Union Hotel. His barber's chair was on top of the stage and he said he was going through to Lansing, to start a barber shop. Sentiment a good ways from the colored race, and in the presence of an escaped slave, was two different things. George Wilbur coaxed the young man to unload his chair and go to work in his bar room. He did so, and by genial ways, courtesy and strict honesty, made a host of friends here. This first colored man, Abraham Losoford, paved the way for that cordial sentiment toward his race, which has always made them welcome in Howell. He lived here to a good old age.

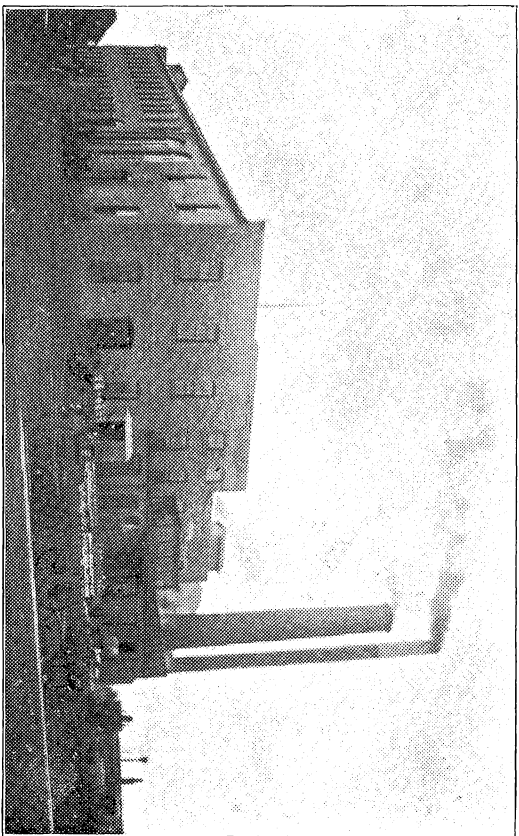
Another colored man was here for a few months before Mr. Losoford came but he remained for so short a time that to Mr. Losoford belongs the title of Howell's first colored man.

As previously noted in this history the Livingston Courier suspended publication in 1857. The office was in a demoralized condition, much of the type pried, and generally run down. During the summer the material was purchased by Joseph T. Titus, then a

young man recently moved here from Jackson where he had been running the Jackson Patriot. On the fifth of August, 1857, he issued the first number of the Livingston Democrat, then a six-columned folio, but afterward enlarged. His first office was in the second story of the building now occupied by the Livingston Tidings, which had also been the office of the Livingston Courier. Mr. Titus was a man of ability as a writer and his paper soon became one of the leading advocates of his party in this section. He associated his son John P. Titus, with him in the publication, some years afterward, and they continued as owners until February 7, 1890, when they failed in business. Leading Democrats of the county at once formed a stock company and purchased the office. John Ryan who was just retiring from the county clerk's office, was placed in charge and Mr. Titus was given employment on the paper. A few years later he went to Toledo to live with his daughter Mrs. James Wing with whom he went to California a few years ago.

Shortly after assuming the management of the Democrat Mr. Ryan purchased the stock held by other members of the company and has been the sole owner for several years past. Under his management the Democrat has maintained its high standard as a county newspaper and an ardent advocate of the party.

A meeting was held in the Congregational church, on the twelfth of December, 1857, to organize an Episcopal church. Among those present were Rev.



FACTORY OF MICHIGAN CONDENSED MILK CO.

Henry Banwell, Abel F. Butterfield, Joseph T. Titus, H. C. Briggs, George Greenaway, George R. Hoyt, William A. Clark and M. Labouter. The church took the name of "All Saints Church of the town of Howell." Rev. Henry Banwell was its first rector. He was followed by Rev. George O. Blackman who resigned April 17, 1865. Rev. Albert C. Lewis became rector in 1866 and continued as long as the church existed, which was until 1868, when the organization was changed. Part of the time this church was in existence its services were held in the Congregational church and part of the time in the court house.

The changing of the organization referred to was the formation of St. John's Episcopal church which was effected on Tuesday, April 14, 1868. The articles were signed by Milo L. Gay, Joseph T. Titus, Mark J. Staley, L. D. Smith, Silas Beardsley and Albert C. Lewis, pastor, and were filed in the county clerk's office the following day. This church practically ceased to exist after a short time, largely because some of its most active members moved away.

In 1878, the church having been strengthened by two or three active men, principally by Walter B. Brown who had moved to Howell and engaged in the drug and book business, the Board of Missions of the Eastern Diocese of Michigan, sent Rev. R. H. Dennis here as pastor, and St. John's church was revived. Services were held in the court house until their church was erected. The plan was for quite an imposing

structure to front on Sibley street, with a chapel which should unite in an L and front on Walnut street. The chapel was erected first and no more has ever been done about the building. The removal of Mr. Brown again crippled the church and it has never been as prosperous as could be desired. It is now connected with Brighton and Hamburg as one parish, of which Rev. Harvey Kerstetter of Brighton, is rector.

The first building burned in Howell township, was the house of Michael Brenner, situated on Section 25. This fire occurred in 1840.

The first fire which inflicted severe loss upon the village, occurred in the evening of Monday, Sept. 28, 1857, and swept the Eagle Hotel, the first building erected on the original plat of the village in 1835, and nearly the entire line of buildings on the South side of Grand River Street, between Walnut and East Streets. The account of this fire, given by the Democrat in its next issue, was as follows:

“A destructive fire broke out in this village at about seven o'clock Monday evening. It commenced in the ‘livery barn,’ near Huntley’s Eagle Hotel, which was soon wrapped in flames. The wind was blowing strongly from the northwest. Mr. Huntley’s barn caught next, then his hotel, then Balcom’s saloon, then Treadwell’s saloon, and then the ‘Old Stage House.’ All of these buildings were consumed by the flames, in about one hour and a half, in spite of the efforts of the citizens. The progress of the fire

could not have been arrested here, had they not pulled down the four small buildings that stood on the east part of the same block. Owing to the high winds, there was great danger of a large portion of the village being swept away. The burning cinders set fire to buildings nearly half a mile distant, which were happily extinguished. Nearly all the business men on the south side of Grand River Street, as far down as Vanderhoof's Hotel, removed their property into the street, which afforded a fine opportunity for thieving, and this the thieves employed.

No one can account for the origin of the fire. The heaviest loss occurs to Mr. Huntley, who lost his all. His loss is estimated at \$5 000. Balcom's saloon was worth about \$300, Judge Kaeeland's building about \$800, and the four small buildings pulled down were worth about \$1000. The barn where the fire originated was owned by Mr. Green, of Detroit; loss about \$200. There was no insurance on any of the buildings. Most of the personal property was saved much of it in a damaged state from the rashness of the men."

The winter of 1853-54 was a very hard one here. At one time the snow went above the record of just ten years before that date, which, too, was an extremely hard winter. It was a trifle over twenty-seven inches deep upon the level, probably the deepest ever known here. All the hay which had been cut, was used up long before spring, and the settlers

were obliged to maintain their stock by browsing, that is, by chopping trees, and allowing the stock to be fed upon their tops. The writer remembers hearing his father often tell of chopping a tree every day, all through the latter part of the winter, and of how hungry the poor stock became in spite of the best he could do for them. When they heard a tree begin to fall they would rush for it and several farmers had stock killed in that way. The last day he cut browse my father's best cow ran under the falling tree and was killed. One day along in the spring, he was some distance from home when he found a good sized lock of hay which someone had lost from a load. He gathered it up carefully and carried it over three miles to give his stock a taste of hay.

Nor did people fare much better than their stock. The general need for provisions became so strong before the harvest of 1854 that a citizens' committee was organized with Henry Smith, father of the present Howell postmaster, as chairman. This committee made a vigorous canvas of the whole township, as then organized, including Cohoctah. Samuel Bush's wheat, on what is now the Peavy farm, was decided to be the ripest, and he was told to harvest it or the committee would. Mr. Bush readily consented, and his wheat was soon in the Bogue mill, from where flour was dealt out on a ration basis to the hungry people.

Whenever the liquor element gets to running

things all its own way, a reaction sets in and something is sure to follow. Such a condition was experienced in Howell in 1855. In March of that year, about thirty leading ladies of the town became so excited over the unrestricted sale of liquor, that they took the matter into their own hands. Marching to the saloon of Samuel Balcom, they proceeded to smash bottles and casks, until no liquor remained. Long drawn out litigation followed, and Mr. Balcom finally secured a verdict for \$540 against several of the leading women. Only a part of it was ever collected. The moral effect was to stiffen the backbone of those in authority, and resulted in a much better enforcement of law.

One of Benjamine Spring's retorts about this time is still told by our oldest residents. A man died who had long been one of his special friends. As the funeral procession was passing his bar room, Mr. Spring and others stood watching it, when one of them noticed that he was crying. Upon rallying him about it, Spring replied: "I tell you boys, this is a pretty solemn occasion. It's the first time in a long while when he has gone by without stopping to take a drink."

The first fight in this township, which resulted seriously, occurred in October, 1856, when Henry Hollis is alleged to have struck George Obert with a neck-yoke. Obert lived but a few days and Hollis was arrested, charged with murder. The jury disa-

greed and Hollis was released on bonds. He was never brought to trial again.

On July 20, 1857, John Lagrange, while intoxicated, picked a fußs with Sanford S. Moore, and was killed during the quarrel. Moore plead self-defense and the coroner's jury so found.

Howell was represented at Lansing, quite early in its history. In 1850 George W. Kneeland was representative from this district. Charles A. Wilber was elected to that position in 1855.

Of the physicians who settled here in this decade, Dr. Henry J. Ramsey began practice in 1853. He had been in mercantile business here for a short time previous. He died here in 1858.

Dr. Robert C. Hutton commenced practice here in 1857. In his latter years he moved to Detroit.

Dr. Henry N. Spencer who came to Fowlerville in 1853, gradually extended his practice to Howell, and moved here in 1869, he having been elected judge of probate in 1868. After his term of office he continued to practice in Howell.

Henry H. Harmon studied law in the office of Howett Brothers while teaching in the Howell schools, and was admitted to practice in 1849. He held the offices of circuit court commissioner, prosecuting attorney and probate judge. He became one of Howell's leading lawyers and continued so until his death. Of high moral ideas, he did much toward the establishment of that sentiment which so long prevailed here,

the trial of cases upon their merits rather than by tricks and subterfuges.

Mylo L. Gay was a student with F. C. Whipple and was admitted in 1853. He maintained an office in the rooms now occupied by The Livingston Tidings for a number of years, but transacted a general loaning and real estate business more than a law business. He engaged in banking at Fowlerville, for a number of years.

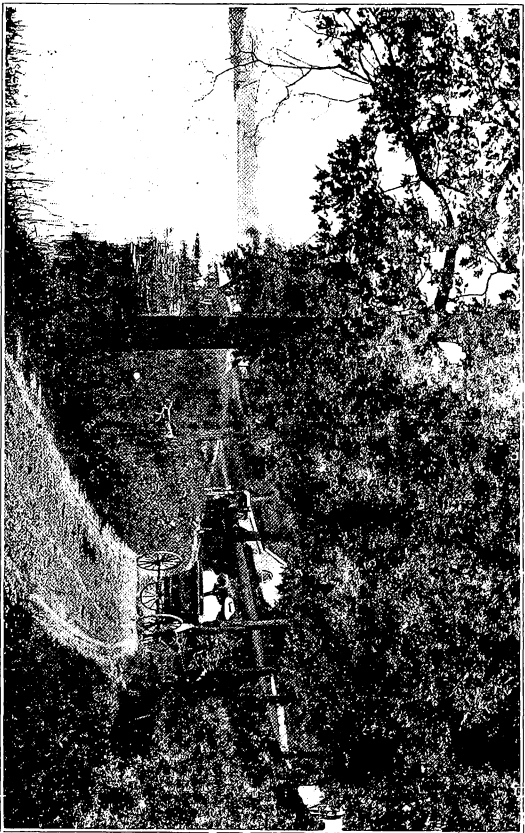
In the early '50s., Marcus B. Wilcox moved here from Pinckney. He served as prosecuting attorney for two terms.

Sardias F. Hubbell was the first law student in this county, in the office of Wellington A. Glover, in 1840 and 1841. He practiced in Oakland county about fourteen years, and returned here in 1854. He served as circuit court commissioner and three terms as prosecuting attorney. He had a large legal practice here until his death.

Andrew D. Waddell, who lived here with his parents in a very early day, returned with his family to New York, after the death of his father in 1855. After a year in the office of John B. Dillingham, he was admitted to practice. He served two terms as circuit court commissioner and two terms as prosecuting attorney. A leader in his profession and as a citizen of this community, his death was mourned as a public calamity.

Another early lawyer was Jerome Turner, son of

Judge Turner, who was admitted to practice in 1857. He only practiced here a few years when he moved to Corunna.



DRIVE NEAR THOMPSON'S LAKE, HOWELL, MICH.

CHAPTER VIII

Howell in the War

The arrival of the stage on the evening of April 14, 1861, will never be forgotten by many in Howell. The dark cloud, which had hung so heavily upon our national horizon, had burst, and Sumpter had fallen. The news came like a thunderbolt to this vicinity. Old men burst into tears, and many were the homes where sleep failed to enter that night. Among the earliest to go to his place of business the next morning, was Joseph T. Titus, who was soon joined by Frank Marsh, then a typo on the Livingston Democrat. At Marsh's suggestion, a flag was borrowed and the first to fling the stars and stripes to the breeze in Howell, after the fall of Ft. Sumpter, was Mr. Titus, who raised it over his office, then in the wooden building, now occupied by the Livingston Tidings and Hopper's insurance office, on Grand River St., opposite the Court House. The flag was soon joined by many more, and when President Lincoln's call for seventy-five thousand men arrived in Howell on the 15 of April, it created the wildest excitement. A very large and enthusiastic "Union Mass Meeting" was held at the court house, April 30. The court house, proving too small, the meeting was adjourned to the public square, where two bands

played national airs, and speeches were made by several citizens. A set of resolutions were adopted, of which the following was the last:

“Resolved: That we devote as an oblation and willing sacrifice upon the altar of our common country, all political party prejudices and animosities, and by obliterating all party distinctions, to unite as patriotic American citizens in defence of the perpetuity and prosperity of the American Union; and to such a line of conduct we dedicate ourselves, and pledge our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor to the cause of our country, and to the maintenance of the Constitution and Union bequeathed to us as a precious heritage of freedom, by our heroic ancestors.”

The state had no money with which to equip soldiers and a popular loan was inaugurated. George W. Lee furnished \$500 toward this fund and accepted a position in the quartermaster's department.

Two companies were soon in the field. One raised by Capt. John Gilluly, became Company I of the Fifth Michigan Infantry, and its history will be noted with that regiment. The other was raised by Lieut. Jas. Mulloy, and became part of Company K of the Fourth Infantry, and were the first in the field of Howell soldiers. The names of Howell men in this company were; Second Lieut. Jas. Mulloy, Sergt. Jonathan S. Sharp, Sergt. Edgar Noble, Henry Boothby, B. O. Demming, Julius D. Smith, William

Bennett, D. A. Wilson, Calvin Wilcox, Stephen G. Fishbeck, John Dorn, Americus Totten, Ira Holt and Giles Donely.

These men, with quite a number of others from this county, making in all about half a company, marched away from Howell, May 21, 1861, amid the wildest excitement. At Dexter they were united with men from that section, to make a company, and proceeded to rendezvous at Adrian, and June 2, 1861, were mustered in, the regiment numbering 1025 officers and men. Five days later, they left Adrian, and moved by the way of Toledo and Cleveland, to Harrisburg, Pa., where they remained until July 1, when they moved to Washington, where they were armed with Springfield muskets. They helped to build the defences around Washington, for a short time but were soon transferred into Virginia, and some of them took part in the first battle of Bull Run, the Fourth being among the few regiments who succeeded in retiring in good order from that field. The portion of the company, not in Bull Run fight, were stationed at Fairfax Court House, under command of Lieut. Mulloy, who resigned his commission immediately thereafter, and his company never saw him again. It will be remembered that this company had enlisted under the first call for three months, but when they were mustered, the term of service was for three years, but no medical examination was made until after the first battle of Bull Run. The result of

this examination was the discharge of B. O. Demming and Americus Totten, for disability, and they were soon followed by Henry Boothby and D. A. Wilson, for the same cause.

Calvin Wilcox, who was in the Fairfax Court House division of the company, was taken sick soon after the battle, and with Julius Smith and John Dorn were soon after taken with typhoid fever and after terms in the hospital, were discharged, Smith weighing less than 100 pounds, on his arrival home. Dorn died in a New York hospital. This left J. S. Sharpe, Wm. Bennett, Edgar Noble, Ira Holt, Giles Donnelly and Stephen G. Fishbeck as the only Howell members of the company. They spent the winter of 61-62 in camp at Miners Hill, Va., and during the next year, went with McClellan to Yorktown and thence up the peninsula. On this campaign Sharpe was captured and the tale of his suffering is told amid the horrors of life and death in Millersville prison. Giles Donnelly was transferred to the invalid corps. When Capt. DePuy of Ann Arbor, was killed in the battle of Gaines Mill, Stephen Fishbeck saw him fall, and secured his sword and other things and had them sent home to his wife, who has them now. From the peninsula, the regiment went north with the army of the Potomac, and took part in the second battle of Bull Run and Antietam. After that battle, Stephen Fishbeck was transferred to the U. S. gun boat *Gladius*, and Wm. Bennett to the

fourth R. I. Battery, leaving Edgar Noble and Ira Holt, the only Howell soldiers with the Fourth Michigan Infantry. Their next experience, was a march through the mud and snow of Virginia, in December, 1862, and taking part in the Battle of Fredericksburg, where Holt was wounded and soon after discharged. Then came a long and tiresome march to Gettysburg. The Fourth took part in the pursuit of the enemy, and spent the following winter in camp at Belton. Camp was broken, April 30, 1864, and May 5, 6 and 7 saw Mr. Noble with his regiment, in the Battle of the Wilderness, and through the days that followed in that long drawn out conflict. Our Howell soldier received a wound in the leg, which laid him up for a time. The regiment's time expired June 19, 1864. Of the regiment who enlisted, only 223 were then mustered out, and 129 of these re-enlisted as veterans, Mr. Noble being among them. Nearly 200 of the original regiment had been killed or died of wounds. The new regiment opened its career by taking part in the battle of Decatur, Ala. The rest of its service was principally guard and picket duty, but in the hot sun was very hard on the men.

Mr. Noble has the distinction of being the only Howell soldier, and with Mr. Carpenter of Pettysville, the only ones from this county, who enlisted on the first call, served all through the war and returned home.

The second body of men to go out from Howell as

above stated, became a part of Company I of the Fifth Michigan Volunteer Infantry. It was credited to Brighton but was known as Livingston Company. Its Captain was John Gilluly of Brighton; First Lieutenant, Hudson B. Blackman, of Howell and Second Lieutenant Charles H. Dennison. Lieut. Dennison who was in command of an advance picket line near Alexandria, was the first member of the company to be hit by the enemy. He was wounded through his head. The regiment was in camp at Ft. Wayne, near Detroit, for several months, perfecting its organization and drill. A great many people believed that it would never go to the front but the disaster at Bull Run changed that idea and on Sept. 11, 1861, it left for Cleveland on the steamer "Ocean." From there they went by rail to Washington.

In the regimental organization Lieut. Blackman became quartermaster in which position he served during the war and was brevetted Major on his discharge, Nov. 3, 1866.

During its stay at Ft. Wayne the regiment made many changes in its membership, several leaving to join other organizations or to come home, and a good many enlisting there. When it left for the front it had the following Howell soldiers in Company I: Sgt. J. Ashley Pond, Corp. John V. Gilbert, Corp. William Pullen, Privates Alexander C. Wilcox, Lyman A. Wilson, George W. Wells, Emerson Soule, Alva W. Scofield, Milton Hitchcock, Henry C. Goodrich.

Merritt F. Pullen and Albert Peckens besides many from various towns of this county, among whom were George Dudley and E. C. Wright, who were residents of Howell for many years.

When the regiment was mustered into service Lewis C. Tupper was in the hospital at Detroit, from where he was not able to be released until February, 1862. He left at once for the front and was mustered as soon as he arrived, February 24. He was taken prisoner October 27, 1864, but was returned to the regiment April 19, 1865.

Although participating in a number of slight skirmishes the Fifth did not get into battle until it reached Williamsburg, on May 5, 1862, when it was in Gen. Berry's third brigade of Gen. Kearney's division which reached the battle ground about the middle of the afternoon, and was in the hottest of the fight from that time until dark, closing the day with a heroic charge which showed the splendid fighting qualities for which it was afterwards noted. The regiment went into this fight about 500 strong of whom it lost 153 in killed and wounded. Among the killed were Sgt. Ashley Pond, Albert Peckens and Merritt F. Pullen of Howell.

John Gilbert was wounded. He was the first wounded soldier to arrive home in Howell. After about two years of recruiting health he enlisted in the Sixth Michigan Cavalry with which he served to the end of the war.

To follow the history of the Fifth would be to go with the army of the Potomac in all its trials and and final triumphs. On Dec. 13, 1862, Lt. Col. Gillyuly who left this county as captain of company I. yeilded up his life, while cheering the regiment on, Maj. Blackman secured his body and brought it home for burial.

Lyman A. Wilson was wounded in July 1862, and was lost to the records from that time forward.

Alexander C. Wilcox found the soldier's life too strenuous. He was discharged for disability at Alexandria, in December, 1862.

George Wells was sick August 7, 1861, and there is no record of what became of him.

Emerson Sowie was discharged for disability at Fortress Monroe, Va., May 1, 1862, after a term in the hospital.

Milton Hitchcock was taken sick early in 1862 and died at Alexandria, Va., Feb. 2 of that year.

Henry C. Goodrich came home sick in the spring of 1862.

When the spring of 1863 opened with its new commander. Gen. Hooker, the Fifth moved up the Rappahannock. During that year the regiment made a number of forced marches the most wonderful record being on July 2 when it moved ten miles in three hours, reaching the Gettysburg battle ground at 4 p. m. An hour later it had lost 105 men. By the following winter the regiment was so reduced in num-

bers that it was returned to Michigan, arriving in Detroit on January 4. The men were given a veteran furlough with their friends at home.

When it was determined that the regiment was coming home Andrew D. Waddell, Solemon T. Lyon and Fred E. Angell went to work for recruits. To enlist then meant more than at any other time during the war. The reality of all that awful strife was upon them, but new men were secured. Messrs. Waddell and Angel were commissioned lieutenants of Company I. Lieut. Waddell's health would not stand the strain upon it and he was obliged to resign and come home after four months service. Lieut. Angell only stood up under the strain a few months longer than his comrade in office. Mr. Lyon became second lieutenant of Company E, and was soon after promoted to first lieutenant of Company B, of which he became captain September 15, 1864, where he served until the close of the war.

Because of the shattered condition all along the lines it was thought best that the new men should be divided among the various companies instead of forming one new company as several had expected when they enlisted.

Of the Howell men who enlisted at that time:

Wm. N. Saunders was discharged Dec, 10, 1863.

Wm. H. Scriver died of disease at Brady Station, Va., March, 24, 1864.

Edwin H. Smith was wounded at Hatchers Run, Va.,

Oct. 27, 1864. He was taken prisoner at Petersburg, Va., Feb, 26, 1865, and is supposed to have died at Richmond.

Joseph Pruden Jr. was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864.

David Robinson was wounded at the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864, and was taken prisoner Oct. 27, of that year. He was returned to the regiment May 17, 1865.

George Newton died of disease at Baltimore, Md., Nov. 21, 1864, and is buried in the government cemetery there.

Geo, Pennell died of disease at York, Pa., Aug. 9, 1864.

Silas M. Perry was wounded in May, 1864.

Jerome G. Phillips was wounded May 6, 1864.

Thomas G. Marr was wounded and taken prisoner in May, 1864, and died at Anersonville, where his remains lie in grave No. 2976 in the government cemetery.

Abraham Neely was killed at Petersburg, Va., in July, 1864.

Charles L. Neely was wounded Oct. 27, 1864, and died of disease in Washington, in July of the following year.

John Hilderbrant was wounded May, 6 1864, and died of disease at Alexandria, Va., Jan. 5, 1865.

Howard E. Glover was wounded at Hatcher's Run, Va., March 27, 1865. He was sent to Harper Hos-

pital where he was discharged two months later.

Christopher Haynes was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864.

Charles Culver was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864, from the effects of which he was discharged at York, Pa., June 27, 1865.

Phile Curtis was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864.

Wm. H. Curtis died of disease at Washington, D. C., April 22, 1864.

Isaac Felter was killed in the battle of the Wilderness, May 7, 1864.

George W. Cooper was killed at the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864.

Wm. Cooper Sr. was wounded and taken prisoner at Petersburg, Va., Oct. 27, 1864. He was returned to the regiment May 17, 1865.

Wm. Cooper Jr. was wounded Oct. 27, 1864.

Cyrus L. Carpenter was wounded May 6, 1864 and discharged at Pt. Lookout, Md., June 5, 1865.

Sidney O. H. Carpenter was wounded May 6, 1864 and again on Oct. 27 of that year when he was taken prisoner. He was returned to the regiment April 22, 1865 and sent to a hospital at Columbus, O., where he was discharged on May 27.

Wm. G. Clayton was discharged at Philadelphia, Pa., June 9, 1865.

James Canfield was wounded at the battle of the Wilderness May 6, 1864, and died at Alexandria, where

he is buried in the government cemetery.

Andrew J. Carl died in a hospital in New York, Aug. 24, 1864, from wounds at Petersburg, Va. He was buried in grave No. 1435 of the National Cemetery at Brooklyn, N. Y.

Henry Carl was discharged at Washington, D. C. Nov. 9, 1864, because of wounds received in the battle of the Wilderness.

Noah Boothby was wounded May 5, 1864 and transferred to the Veteran Relief Corps eight months later. He was discharged at Washington, July 20, 1865.

Elias R. Brockway was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness, May 5, 1864, and taken prisoner at Hatcher's Run, Va., Oct. 27, 1864. He escaped March 16, 1865 but was so badly broken down when he reached the regiment that he was sent to Washington where he was discharged in June following.

George Bronner was wounded May 12, 1864.

George W. Axtell was wounded through his mouth and neck at Hatcher's Run, Va., Oct. 27, 1864 and discharged May 13, 1865.

George Barnard was wounded and missing May 13, 1864.

Wm. J. Barrett was wounded May 5, 1864.

Frederick Zeitz was wounded May 13, 1864.

Andrew J. Whitaker was wounded May 13, 1864.

Wm. L. Whitehed was taken prisoner May 12, 1862 and lost to the records at that time.

Ezra Whitaker was wounded May 5, 1864.

Edwin Ware was taken prisoner June 22, 1864 and returned to the regiment in January following.

John Wehner was wounded May 5, 1864.

Orin J. Wells was discharged Jan. 26, 1864.

Henry Pate, Charles Hilderbrant, Samuel P. Lord, Marion Hart, Wm. Brooks, Asa Wilson, and Andrew J. Allen were the only ones who escaped without being wounded or taken prisoners.

February 10, 1864 the reorganized Fifth regiment left Detroit, to return to the Army of the Potomac. By the fifth of the following June the Fifth was so badly cut to pieces with the hard fighting it had undergone, that the Third Michigan which was also reduced to a mere skeleton, was merged with it. The next years record shows 546 killed, wounded and missing. It was in the hottest of the last days of fighting and took its place in that never-to-be-forgotten grand review in Washington.

June 10. 1865 the Fifth left the vicinity of Washington moving toward home. By July 4, it had reached Jeffersonville, Ind. Where it was mustered out. On July 17th it arrived in Detroit where the men were paid off and discharged.

The Ninth Michigan Infantry was raised in the latter part of the summer and early autumn of 1861. It also rendezvoused at Ft. Wayne, Detroit. William W. Duffield was its Colonel but was to have been promoted to Brigadier General about the middle of the following summer. A severe wound prevented this

and soon after compelled him to resign. John G. Parkhurst its Lieutenant Colonel, was promoted to the command.

The regiment moved from Ft. Wayne, Oct. 25, 1861 and was the first Michigan regiment to join the Western Division. An epidemic of measles broke out that fall and sent a large per cent. of the regiment to the hospital. On July 13, 1862 five companies of this regiment which were encamped in a grove near Mufreesboro, Tenn., were suddenly attacked by Forest's rebel cavalry in force fully ten to one of the strength of the Ninth. Col. Parkhurst and his brave men, although surprised in the onslaught, witheld the enemy in such a way that Gen. Forest withdrew and went over about two miles where he easily captured the Third Minnesota regiment and a battery of artillery which were sent to the rear.

A single company of the Ninth which had been stationed at the court house in Mufreesboro, held Gen. Forest for two hours before they surrendered.

Returning in the afternoon Gen. Forest succeeded, after another hard fight, in capturing the five companies which had driven him off in the morning. The rebel commander recognized the valor of his prisoners by issuing an order that all members of the Ninth should be mounted. This was easily done on the horses they had emptied of their riders during the fight. On the other hand the Minnesota troops, including the Colonel and staff, were compelled to

march, when the column started for the rear.

During the confusion after the surrender, several members of the Ninth succeeded in escaping. No report could be made of them by their officers and their names found their way to the deserters' columns. Believing that the Ninth would never be reorganized some of them at once joined other regiments and did good service. They have had the trouble of securing the proofs to clear official records nevertheless.

Many of the enlisted men were soon after paroled and in time the officers were exchanged. When Col. Parkhurst was exchanged in December, 1862, he set about reorganizing his regiment. Gen. Thomas issued an order especially commending the regiment for its heroism in the fight at Mufreesboro, and appointing Col. Parkhurst as his provo officer. The Ninth then became the provo guard of Gen. Thomas' division and continued so until the close of the war.

There are many duties which devolve upon the provo. Among others it takes a position in the rear during battle, and drives those who would run back into the fight. In the discharge of this duty there is often call for cool bravery. Its men must hold their heads when the whole army are panic stricken. If the provo breaks in a crisis, all is lost. The history of Gen. Thomas' division shows that he made no mistake in selecting the Ninth for this important place. In more than one occasion they held the army to business and turned a panic into a charge,

Individual history of Howell men with the Ninth is as follows.

Charles P. Lake, enlisted Oct. 16, 1861, re-enlisted Dec. 7, 1863 at Chattanooga, Tenn. Appointed corporal Dec. 7, 1863, sargeant, Oct. 29, 1864. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1865.

Henry LaRowe, enlisted Feb. 12, 1864. joined regiment at Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 29, 1864. Discharged for disability at Nashville, Tenn., Aug, 10, 1865.

James P. LaRowe, enlisted Feb. 27, 1864, Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1865.

Jerome G. Buckland enlisted as corporal, Sept. 25, 1861. Died of disease at Tullahoma, Tenn., Aug. 25, 1862.

Lyman Carl enlisted Oct. 1, 1861. Died of disease at Mufreesboro, Tenn., Jan, 16, 1863.

Henry L. Lake enlisted Oct. 16, 1861, re-enlisted Dec. 7, 1863. Parolled and sent to Camp Chase, O., July 13, 1862, corporal. Discharged at Jackson, Mich., Sept. 28, 1865.

Andrew J. Allen enlisted Oct. 24, 1861. Sick in hospital at West Point, Ky., in January, 1862.

Wm. E. Bennett enlisted Oct. 1, 1861. Re-enlisted Dec. 7, 1863. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn, Sept. 15, 1865.

Winton B. Brooks enlisted Oct. 9, 1861, re-enlisted Dec. 7. 1863. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn, Sept. 15, 1865.

John H. Mills enlisted Oct. 5, 1861. On duty with Eleventh Infantry from Dec. 28, 1863, to March 24, 1864. Discharged at Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 14, 1864.

Henry Musson enlisted Sept. 26, 1861. Parolled July 13, 1862. Sent to Camp Chase, O., Jan. 1863. On duty with Eleventh Infantry from Dec. 28, 1863 to March 24, 1864. Discharged at Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 14, 1864.

James Reed enlisted Feb. 1, 1864. Joined regiment March 4, 1864. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1865.

Everett Sargent, enlisted Oct. 7, 1861. Wounded in action July 13, 1862. Regimental color bearer from July, 1863, to Dec. 1863. Appointed sergeant Oct. 15, 1864; first sargeant Oct. 15, 1864. Discharged to accept promotion, Dec. 31, 1864. Commissioned Second Lieutenant, Nov. 24, 1864. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1865.

Chauncey Shearer enlisted Oct. 3, 1861. Mustered Oct. 15, 1861. No further record.

Barnard B. Smith enlisted Oct. 24, 1861. Parolled and sent to Camp Chase, Ohio, July 13, 1862. Discharged by order of War Department.

Gardner E. Smith enlisted Oct. 5, 1861. Died of disease at Mufreesboro, Tenn., June, 1862. Buried in grave No. 2495 in National Cemetary at Mufreesboro.

Reuben C. Smith enlisted Oct. 7, 1861. Died of disease at West Point, Ky., Nov. 30, 1861.

Vernon C. Smith enlisted Oct. 5, 1861. Discharged for disability at Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 27, 1862. After the battle of Mufreesboro joined the Fourth Michigan Cavalry.

George Stafford enlisted as corporal Sept. 27, 1861. Re-enlisted Dec. 7, 1863. Appointed sargeant Dec. 7, 1863. Mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 15, 1865.

Ezra Whitaker enlisted Sept. 25, 1861.

Joseph Duffy enlisted Sept. 30, 1861. Died of disease at West Point, Ky., Oct. 28, 1861.

The Fifteenth Michigan was raised and organized in the fall of 1861, by Col. J. M. Oliver. Its rendezvous was at Monroe. On March 27, 1862, it left for the front and went right into action at Pittsburg Landing where its initiation saw thirty-three officers and men killed, sixty-four wounded and seven missing.

Most of the work of this regiment was in Mississippi and Alabama until February, 1864, when it was sent home on a veteran furlough. The greater portion of the men re-enlisted and went with Gen. Sherman marching through Georgia and to the sea.

It was the fate of this regiment at least four times to hold the position of greatest danger and importance in battles and each time it proved true to the selections made by its commanding officers, for these positions of trust and honor. It was returned to Detroit in August, 1865 and mustered out Sept. 1 of that year.

Howell men with the Fifteenth were as follows

Edward Allen enlisted March 17, 1862. Re-enlisted Feb. 2, 1864 at Scottsboro, Ala. Wounded in action at Atlanta, Ga., July 22, 1864. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 12, 1862.

Elisha F. Allen drafted April 4, 1865. Deserted at Louisville, Ky., June 3, 1865.

Samuel Axtell enlisted Dec. 30, 1861. Died April 24, 1862, Buried at Spring Grove cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Horace E. Barbour enlisted Dec. 6, 1861. Sargeant. Wounded in action at Corinth, Miss., Dec. 1862. Discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, at St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 19, 1863.

Nelson Beardsley enlisted Dec. 19, 1861. Killed in action at Corinth, Miss, Oct. 3, 1862.

Andrew J. Bishop enlisted as Second Lieutenant Company B, at organization, Dec. 5, 1861. Commissioned First Lieutenant, Oct. 1862, Acting Adjutant, Oct 1864. Acting Regimental Quartermaster, Nov. and Dec. 1864. Commissioned Captain, Jan. 12, 1864. Discharged at expiration of term of enlistment, Jan. 28, 1865.

Spencer Bowen enlisted Jan. 4, 1862. Deserted at Pittsburg Landing, Tenn., April, 1865.

William P. Briggs enlisted Dec. 9, 1861. Died of disease in Howell, July 18, 1862.

Charles Brockway enlisted as corporal, Dec. 9, 1861 Died of disease at Jefferson Barracks, Mo., May 15,

1862. Buried in National Cemetery at Jefferson Barracks.

Elias E. Brockway enlisted as drummer, Dec. 9, 1861. Re-enlisted Feb. 15, 1864, Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13, 1865.

George F. Brockway enlisted Dec. 9, 1861. Re-enlisted Feb. 15, 1864. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark. Aug. 13, 1865.

Isaac Countryman enlisted Nov. 6, 1861. Wounded in action at Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, 1862. Discharged for disability, Aug. 19, 1862.

John Daniels enlisted Nov. 17, 1861. Re-enlisted Feb. 2, 1864. Corporal. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug 13, 1865.

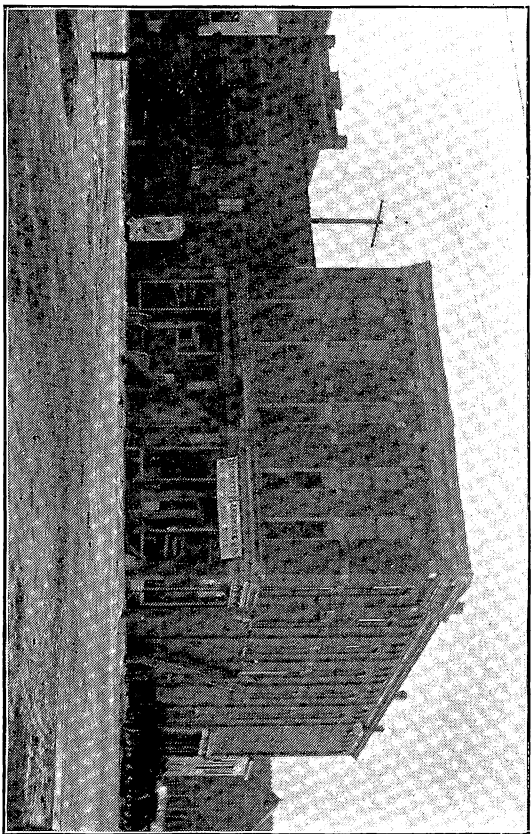
Marcellus Dickinson enlisted from Handy, Dec. 7, 1861 discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability at Corinth, Miss., June 12, 1862. After regaining his health he re-enlisted in the Ninth and served there until the close of the war. He has since lived in Howell

Albert G. Dorrance drafted April 4, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13; 1865.

William Dorrance drafted April 4, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13, 1865.

Daniel A. Ellingwood substitute for Wm. McPherson drafted May 21, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13, 1865.

George W. Fox substitute for Charles B. Damon drafted Feb. 13, 1863. Sargeant March 16, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13, 1865.



HOWELL OPERA HOUSE

Cornelius C. Helms enlisted Dec. 9, 1861. Discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability at Chewalla, Tenn., Aug. 9, 1862.

Henry C. Helms substitute for William Stewart drafted Feb. 10, 1865. Corporal Aug. 30, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug 13, 1865.

Jerome D. Helms substitute for John Hubbard drafted Feb. 10, 1863. Mustered out at Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 13, 1865.

Nicholas J. Holt drafted April 4, 1865. Mustered out at Little Rock., Aug. 13, 1865.

Leonard Hook drafted April 4, 1865.

Charles H. Lonsbery enlisted Jan. 25, 1862. Discharged on surgeon's certificate for disability at Chewalla, Tenn., Aug. 3, 1862.

Clark Lcunsbery enlisted Jan. 25, 1862. Missing in action at Petersburg Landing, Tenn., April 6, 1862.

William E. Pixley enlisted Jan. 12, 1862. Discharged on surgeon's certificate for disability at Chewalla, Tenn., Aug. 9, 1862.

George W. Place drafted April 4, 1865. Deserted at Lousville, Ky., June 21, 1865.

Silas S. Richmond drafted April 4, 1865. Deserted at Lousville, Ky., June 21, 1865.

Theodore R. Staley drafted April 4, 1865. Discharged at Alexandria, Va., July 3, 1865.

Theodore Washburn enlisted March 31, 1864. Killed in action at Atlanta, Ga., July 28, 1864.

Jacob Zely enlisted Dec, 5, 1861. Died of disease at Monterey. Miss., May 8, 1862.

Recruiting for the Twenty-second Infantry commenced July 15, 1862. Two months later it was mustered into service, the men coming from Livingston, Oakland, Macomb, St. Clair, Lapeer and Sanilac counties which then composed the fifth congressional district. Ex-Gov. Moses Wisner became its first Colonel and served faithfully in that position until his death from typhoid fever, Jan. 4, 1863, at Lexington, Ky.

Col. Ezra C. Hatton for many years recognized leader in soldier circles in Howell, was captain of Company A, enlisting from Farmington.

Col. Henry S. Dean who was in command during some of its hardest service, enlisted from Green Oak, as captain of Company H.

On leaving Michigan the Twenty-second was sent to Kentucky. As soon as it reached fighting ground Col. Wisner ordered it out to the front some distance in the lead of other regiments already there, and proposed to move right on to Richmond if the rest would only follow. An orderly soon presented the compliments of the commanding general and Col. Wisner narrowly escaped a court martial for a start in his soldier career.

Its brave commander did not live to see much of the hard fighting before the boys in blue marched on to Richmond, but the Twenty-second had its full share. Its loss on the second day at Chicamauga was 372 out of the 584 officers and men who went into

that fight. It was the work of the Twenty-second in this fight which made the foundation for that beautiful poem "The Rock of Chicamauga." With cartridges all gone the Twenty-second kept on fighting. They made two charges with fixed bayonets but empty guns, which will go down in history. All their acting field officers went down and the little remnant remaining that night, was commanded by a captain.

The Twenty-second was detailed to the work of engineers and mechanics for some time, and for months served with the Ninth as reserve brigade to the army of the Cumberland, doing provo duty considerable of the time. It participated in the advance on Atlanta. It was serving at Nashville, Tenn., when the orders came to muster out on June 26, 1865. The next day it left for home.

Howell men with the Twenty-second were as follows:

Lewis Brown, enlisted as second lieutenant, July 31, 1862. Promoted to first lieutenant Jan. 5, 1863, and to captain, April 1, 1865. Mustered out June 26, 1865.

David Hiscott enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Died Oct. 11, 1863, at Chattanooga, Tenn., from wounds received at battle of Chicamauga. Corporal. Jan. 5, 1863. Buried in National Cemetery at Chattanooga, grave No. 1,107.

Peter A. Rorabacher enlisted from Cohoctah. Aug. 20, 1862. Mustered out Jan. 26, 1865. Has lived in Howell for several years past.

Mark S. Smock enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Corporal.
Mustered out June 26, 1865,

George Bush enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Mustered out
June 26, 1875.

John G. Ferguson enlisted as corporal, Aug. 5,
1862, from Unadilla. Discharged for disability at
Louisville, Ky., May 8, 1863. Lived in Howell until
his death in 1902.

Norton M. Monroe enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Dis-
charged at Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 8, 1863, on account
of wounds received at battle of Chicamauga.

Lemuel D. Polly enlisted as waggoner, Aug. 12,
1862. Deserted at Snow's Pond, Ky., Sept. 16, 1862.

Freeman Rorabacher enlisted as corporal, Aug. 15,
1862, from Lyons. Discharged at Detroit, June, 26,
1865. Has resided in Howell for a number of years.

Nearly every township in this county had men in
the Twenty-second, many of them enlisting at Howell
but as far as we can learn, the above were the only
Howell men in that organization.

In the latter part of July 1862 John C. Culver of
Hamburg, afterwards Captain, with one or two others,
commenced the work of recruiting a company to join
the Twenty-second. When they reached Pontiac
they found that regiment all filled and after some de-
liberation, proceeded to Jackson where they became
Company E of the Twenty-sixth. Another company
of this regiment was recruited in the south part of
this county. The regiment 900 strong, left Jackson

on December 13, 1862. Its first real duty was about four months service as provo guard in the vicinity of Washington.

May 26 of the following year the regiment saw its first fighting at Suffolk, Va., but it stood its ground like veterans and repelled a strong charge. Capt. Culver received a wound in this his first fight, from which he died a few days later.

Shortly after this the Twenty-sixth was again in luck in being assigned to the duty of quelling the draft riots in New York. When they arrived there however they were made a reserve force and the fact of their presence did the work while the men enjoyed life in camp.

October 13, this life of comparative ease was broken up and the Twenty-sixth became part of the Army of the Potomac, arriving in Virginia in time for Mine Run. It was often in the front skirmish line and won many encomiums as the best skirmishers in the Army of the Potomac, Probably its heaviest fighting was at Spotsylvania although it participated in the heavy work of the Army of the Potomac during all those memorable days from Mine Run to the surrender of Gen. Lee. On that eventful day, the Twenty-sixth was in the skirmish line and the flag of truce passed through its lines.

For some days after the surrender the Twenty-sixth was detailed to guard the captured artillery and other arms. It participated in the grand review at Wash-

ington and arrived home on June 7. It was a week later however before it was paid off and disbanded.

Howell men with the Twenty-sixth were as follows:

Fred N. Galloway enlisted Aug. 15, 1862. Discharged to accept promotion, November, 1862

Harris A. Hickok enlisted Aug. 8, 1862. Corporal, Sept. 10, 1862. First lieutenant and adjutant, July 29, 1864. Captain June 9, 1865. Mustered out at Alexandria, Va., June 4, 1865.

George W. Lake enlisted Aug. 8, 1862. Died Sept. 8, 1864, at City Point, Va., of wounds received in action at Ream's Station, Va., Aug. 25, 1864.

Newton T. Kirk for three terms county clerk and a resident of Howell for many years, enlisted from Hartland, as Corporal, Aug. 11, 1862. Sergeant July 3, 1863. Wounded in action and taken prisoner at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, 1864. Returned to regiment Dec. 15, 1864. Discharged to accept promotion, Sept. 5, 1864. Mustered as captain of colored troops, Sept. 6, 1864. Discharged Jan 30, 1865.

Andrew J. McKean enlisted Aug. 15, 1862. Discharged at Philadelphia, Pa., June 10, 1865.

Robert S. Mountain enlisted Aug. 17, 1862. Sick at Alexandria, Va., Aug. 25, 1864.

Herman Preston enlisted as corporal, Aug. 14, 1862. Reported Sergeant Major, Dec. 12, 1862. Second lieutenant, March, 30, 1863. Discharged on account of disability, Dec. 3, 1863.

Eli Rambo enlisted Aug. 14, 1862. Killed in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, 1864.

John W. Thompkins enlisted Aug. 22, 1864. Discharged for disability at Rochester, N. Y., May 15, 1865.

Martin Wall enlisted Aug. 8, 1862. Transferred to invalid corps Sept. 30, 1863. Discharged at Elmira, N. Y., July 2, 1865.

Philo B. Wines enlisted as corporal, Aug. 8, 1862. Discharged at Detroit, June 30, 1865.

Harvey P. Wing enlisted Aug. 8, 1862. Wounded in action May 24, 1864. Discharged at Baltimore, Md., May 26, 1865.

George E. Wright enlisted Aug. 8, 1862. Wounded in action at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, 1864. Discharged for disability at Portsmouth Grove, R. I., Jan. 2, 1865.

In addition to those already named there were a good many Howell soldiers scattered through other organizations as follows:

Bracket J. Allen enlisted from Mundy, in the Twenty-third infantry, Aug. 11, 1862, at Flint. Discharged at Alexandria, Va., June 28, 1865. Has lived in Howell for a number of years.

George Barnes, substitute for his father John Barnes who was drafted at North Shade, Oct. 5, 1864. Discharged at Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 17, 1865. Ex-Superintendent of Schools and publisher Livingston Republican at Howell.

Azel Carpenter enlisted in Company K, First Engineers and Mechanics, Nov. 21, 1861, as artificer. Discharged for disability at Nashville, Tenn., June 3, 1862.

Harvey Devereaux enlisted in Company K, First Engineers and Mechanics, Nov. 23, 1861. Died of disease at Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 20, 1863. Buried in National Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn.

Jared L. Cook enlisted as sergeant in Company D, Sixth Cavalry, Sept. 5, 1862. Transferred to invalid corps, March 31, 1864. Discharged by order, July 18, 1865.

Franklin Goodrich enlisted in Company K, First Engineers and Mechanics, Nov. 27, 1861. Discharged at Naahville, Tenn., May 28, 1862. Re-entered service in Company K, Second Infantry, March 26, 1864. First Sergeant. Discharged at St. Mary's Hospital, Detroit, April 26, 1865, by reason of wounds received in action.

Benjamin B. Head, enlisted as teamster in sixth Cavalry Oct. 2, 1862. Discharged for disability, March 24, 1863.

Asa McFall enlisted in Battery C, First Light Artillery, Oct. 11, 1861. Discharged for disability, Feb. 9, 1862.

Reuben McFall enlisted in Battery C, First Light Artillery, Dec. 1, 1861. Died of disease at Luka, Miss., Sept. 3, 1862

George H. Miles enlisted in Battery C, First Light

Artillery, Dec. 8, 1861. Discharged for disability, Nov. 6, 1862.

Allen C. Stearns enlisted in Battery C, First Artillery, Dec. 12, 1861. Veteran Dec. 28, 1863. Sergeant. Mustered out July 22, 1865.

Stepher D. Steadman enlisted in Battery H, First Light Artillery, Dec. 2, 1861. Discharged for disability, February, 1863.

Peter Cameron enlisted in Company F, Second Infantry, March 28, 1864. Mustered out July 20, 1865

Franklin Goodrich enlisted in Company K, Second Infantry, March 26, 1864. Discharged for disease,

James Barnhart enlisted in Company G. Seventh Infantry, March 3, 1863, Transferred to Invalid Corps, Feb. 15, 1864.

Oliver Lampman enlisted in Company K, First Engineers and Mechanics, Nov. 21, 1861. Taken prisoner between Huntsville, Ala., and War Force Tenn., May 20, 1862. Artificer. Discharged at Columbus, O., Feb. 4, 1863.

David Wright enlisted in Company B, First Engineers and Mechanics, Dec. 5, 1861. Died Oct. 2, 1862. Buried in National Cemetery, Nashville, Tenn.

Simon Dolph enlisted in Company B. Eighth Infantry, Feb. 29, 1864. Died in Andersonville prison, Aug. 14, 1864.

Edward A. Hart enlisted in Company A, Tenth

Infantry, Oct 21, 1861. Discharged July 2, 1862.

Sherwood Hart enlisted in Company A, Tenth Infantry, Oct. 27, 1861. Died of disease at Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 17, 1862.

Hugh McKeever enlisted in Company A, Tenth Infantry, Oct. 27, 1861. Discharged for disability, June 21, 1862.

Edward Haney enlisted in Company B, Fourteenth Infantry, April 19, 1864. Mustered out July 18, 1865.

Peter Malosh enlisted in Company B, Sixteenth Infantry, March 23, 1865. Mustered out July 8, 1865.

James Barney enlisted in Company E, Sixteenth Infantry, March 29, 1865. Mustered out July 8, 1865.

Charles Moore enlisted in Company G, Sixteenth Infantry March 28, 1865. Mustered out July 8, 1865.

John Carney enlisted in Company I, Sixteenth Infantry January 2, 1862. Discharged for disability Aug. 24, 1864.

William Robinson enlisted in Company G, Sixteenth Infantry, March 18, 1865. Mustered out July 8, 1865.

George Reed enlisted in Company I, Sixteenth Infantry, Dec. 10, 1861. Discharged Feb. 18, 1863.

Stephen D. Harrington enlisted in Company H, Twenty-third Infantry, Sept. 9, 1862. Mustered out June 28, 1865.

Henry Hagadorn enlisted in Company G, Twenty-seventh Infantry, Feb. 10, 1863. Died of disease, June 9, 1864.

William Campbell enlisted in Company K, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 22, 1864. Mustered out Sept. 13, 1865.

George W. Lincoln enlisted in Company K, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 22, 1864. Died of disease at Nashville, Tenn., July 10, 1865.

William Mershon enlisted in Company E, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 20, 1864. Mustered out June 13, 1865.

Aaron Selleck enlisted in Company A, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 12, 1864. Mustered out June 5, 1865.

Myron Simpson enlisted in Company K, Twenty-eighth Infantry, as corporal, Sept. 22, 1864. Mustered out June 6, 1865.

Palmer G. Tripp enlisted in Company F, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 24, 1864. Mustered out May 30, 1865.

Alfred Wright enlisted in Company F, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 26, 1864. Mustered out June 5, 1865.

John Walker enlisted in Company K, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Sept. 26, 1864. Mustered out June 5, 1865.

Leverett J. Wood enlisted in Company H, Twenty-eighth Infantry, Aug. 30, 1864. Mustered out June

5, 1865.

Edwin A. Burch enlisted in Company B, Second Cavalry, Nov. 19, 1863. Killed in action at Oxford, Ala., April 28, 1865.

Joseph Krozier enlisted in Company E, Second Cavalry, Nov. 20, 1863. Mustered out April 22 1865.

Francis Crandall enlisted in Company E, Second Cavalry, Nov. 20, 1863. Mustered out Aug. 17, 1865

Levi Bush enlisted as buglar in Company K, Tenth Cavalry, Sept. 5, 1863. Died of disease at Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 7, 1865. Buried in Government Cemetery at Knoxville.

Herbert H. Glass enlisted in Company K, Tenth Cavalry, Aug. 29, 1863. Mustered out Nov. 11, 1865.

John Swanger enlisted in Company K, Tenth Cavalry, April 26, 1864. Died of disease in North Carolina, Jan. 17, 1865.

Renben H. Warren enlisted in Company K, Tenth Cavalry, Sept. 9, 1863. Mustered out Nov. 11, 1865.

Samuel Warring enlisted in Company K, Tenth Cavalry, Oct. 16, 1863. Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, May 1, 1865.

Luther H. Frink enlisted in Company I, U. S. Sharp Shooters, Dec. 14, 1864.

Adelbert F. Peavy enlisted from Hamburg, Sept. 3, 1863, in Company K, Tenth Cavalry. Mustered out Nov. 11, 1865. Has lived in Howell nearly all the time since the war.

CHAPTER IX

In War Times

The east line of the original plot of the village of Howell crosses Grand River street about at Barron & Wines' drug store. As previously noted the fight for the location of the court house ended in the selection of the present square, half of which was upon land donated by P. A. Cowdry and the rest by Edward Thompson,

Mr. Thompson was first to formally plot his addition to the village which extended north from the line marking the center of the section, which would cross Divison street just south of the Wilcox block, and the Ann Arbor Railroad at the northeast corner of the Rubert lumber yard. The plot was about two lots wide at its eastern side, and four at its western, and includes much of what is now considered very choice residence property. The Cowdry addition included nearly all the town south of the Thompson addition to the Pere Marquette Railroad. All the eastern portion of the business section of Grand River street is on this addition.

Mr. Cowdry arranged for a second addition to the village which was surveyed Nov. 16, 1852. It embraced forty-nine acres between Wetmore street and

Byron road, and north of Grand River street, north west of the original plat. Mr. Cowdry died before this addition was advanced very far. The plat was filed by the administrator of his estate Oct. 26, 1853.

Joseph H. Wilcox was the next to enlarge the village. He platted thirty-two lots south of Livingston street, near where the Pere Marquette railroad now runs. His plat was filed for record Aug. 1, 1867.

Almon Whipple's first addition was east of the Cowdry addition to the old fair ground, and north of Grand River street. The plot is dated on January 27, 1868. Mr. Whipple's second addition, which was platted in the fall of 1871, lies east of that part of the Cowdry addition, which is south of Grand River street.

Heirs of George W. Jewett platted sixty-four lots south-west of the original village plat, and began selling lots in 1868. Their plat was recorded on May 23 of that year. The tendency of the town to grow to the east acted against this addition for years. Its desirability has come to be more fully realized of late and houses are going up there more rapidly.

The McPherson family caught the general idea which prevailed Howell in 1868, that the town was to boom, and laid out an addition from Thompson's addition north, with Division street as its western boundary. Aug. 24, 1874 they followed with a second addition east of their first, to Thompson's lake.

During 1874 they also plotted their two Prospect Place addition's. The first of these is north of Grand River street and west of the Byron Road; the second embraces a small territory south of Grand River street, opposite the first.

Cardell's addition embraces the land between McPherson's Second Prospect place addition and the original plot.

In 1875 T. W. Mizner platted the hill south east of town which he named Washington Heights addition. It contrins nineteen blocks. Quite a number of houses have been built there but it is largely vacant as yet.

Fredrick J. Lee and L. S. Montague platted a small tract in the south eastern portion of town, between Cowdry's and other additions in that part, and it became Lee and Montague's addition.

In 1871 Alexander and William McPherson platted an addition west of Pinekney road and south of the Pere Marquette railroad. Joseph B. Skilbeck platted an addition which was recorded May 30. 1874. It included quite a tract east of Pinekney road and south of the Pere Marquette railroad. Quite a settlement grew up on these additions but it did not become a part of the corperation of Howell until the granting of the last village charter by the Legislature in 1891. They are in Marion township.

There is quite a large tract in the northwestern part of town, including the milk factory and resi-

dence lots near there, which has never been platted and is still described by metes and bounds when transfers occur.

By act of the State Legislature approved March 14, 1863, "all that tract of country situated in the township of Howell, in the County of Livingston, in the state of Michigan, which is known and described as follows, to wit: section 35, section 36, the south half of section 25 and the south half of section 26, in township No. 3 north, of range No. 4 east, be and the same is hereby made and constituted a town corporate, by the name, style and title of the village of Howell"

The first charter election was held May 4, 1863. Sardias F. Hubble was the first village president; Andrew D. Waddell, recorder; Asa VanKleek, treasurer; John H. Galloway, assessor; Marcus B. Wilcox, William R. Melvin, William McPherson Jr., John Hoyt and Philo Curtis were the trustees.

Up to 1870 the village officers elected were as follows:

1864—President, Joseph M. Gilbert; Recorder, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, Frederick J. Lee; Assessor, John H. Galloway; Trustees, John Cummiskey, Nathan T. Hickey, George L. Clark, Luther M. Glover, V. R. T. Angel.

1865—President, Sardis F. Hubbell; Recorder, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, Frederick J. Lee; Assessor, John H. Galloway; Trustees, James Bowers, William R. Melvin, George L. Clark, William E. Huntley, Marcus B. Wilcox.



SOLDIERS MONUMENT

1866—President, Mylo L. Gay; Recorder, James Bowers; Treasurer, William R. Melvin; Assessor, Isaac W. Bush; Trustees, George Taylor, John Jones William E. Huntley, Frederick J. Lee, Sardius F. Hubbell.

1867—President, Sardus F. Hubbell; Recorder, Joseph T. Titus; Treasurer, William R. Griffith; Assessor, Orrin H. Winegar; Trustees, Andrew D. Waddell, William R. Melvin, Leander C. Smith, William E. Huntley, Geo. S. Clark.

1868 President, Andrew D. Waddell; Recorder, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, R. H. Rumsey; Assessor, Oren H. Winegar; Trustees Leander C, Smith, William E. Huntley, George L. Clark, Alexander McPherson, Henry H. Harmon.

1869.—President, Mylo L. Gay; Recorder, Joseph T. Titus; Treasurer, Royal H. Rumsey; Assessor, Orrin H. Winegar; Trustees, William E. Huntley, Edward McGunn, Sylvester Andrews, Henry P. Wheeler, Levi D. Smith.

Our readers will remember the story of Howell's first school house built in 1837, which is yet standing. This school house was never satisfactory to the district and in 1845 it was sold. The old Presbyterian church was rented for school purposes for awhile as was the "academy building" which stood nearly where the Republican block now stands. It was three years before the location of a school house was determined, after the old one was sold. The

fight on this question was one of the most stubbornly contested of any which Howell has ever seen. Five different committees were appointed at as many school meetings. The northwest corner of the old public square, near where the Knapp shops now stand, the site of the Methodist church and other sites in that neighborhood were chosen at various times by the committees, only to be turned down by school meetings. The present site of the Central School was finally adopted Dec. 12, 1848. A two story brick building 38x48 feet in size was at first determined upon but the opposition called this a "Castle" and on Feb. 29, 1849, succeeded in getting the size cut down to 26x36 feet. Promoters of the larger building kept up their contention and were jubilant when in 1850 it became necessary to rent more room. In 1851 it was voted to enlarge the building but it was not brought about until 1856. This too soon proved inadequate and in 1866, Sardis F. Hubbell offered a resolution in the annual school meeting, which resulted in the erection of the splendid building which is now occupied by the Central School.

The bonds provided for erection of the Central school building were for \$15,000 at seven per cent, \$1,000 of principal to be paid annually. The building committee selected was H. C. Briggs, Sardias F. Hubbell, Wm. McPherson Sr., J. I. VanDeusen and Joseph M. Gilbert.

This committee went over plans and decided the

amount to be too small for the purpose so nothing more was done until after the next school meeting when \$5,000 more was voted. The contract was let to R. B. Rice of Detroit, for \$15,650 with \$700 additional for finishing the third story which was not contemplated at first. In addition to this the district furnished brick and other materials from the old building and quite an amount in addition to that.

By the time the building was finished and ready for use, which was for the winter term of 1869, the total cost was \$31,000.

It may be interesting in this connection to speak of teachers in the old building. The old records are defective but as nearly as they can be learned the principals were as follows:

W. Mills, 1849-50; John S. Dixon, 1850-52; Seth Beden, 1853-54; J. S. Houston, 1855-56; F. W. Munson, 1857; L. Barnes, 1858-59 D. Cramer, 1859-60; Charles W. Bowen, 1860-62; Rufus T. Bush, 1862-63; Michael McKernan, 1863-65; S. S. Babcock, 1865-66; Joshua S. Lane, 1866-67; L. S. Montague 1867 for twenty weeks until the old building was torn down.

There were several steps toward a graded school during the nineteen years the old building was used. The greatest of these steps was made during the administration of Prof. Bush who prepared the first course of study.

Since moving into the present building superinten-

dents have been as follows: S. S. Babcock, 1869-70; T. C. Garner, 1870-73; M. W. Schreeb, 1873-74; W. Carey Hill, 1874-77; Elihu B. Fairfield, 1877-80; Geo. Barnes, 1880-88; S. G. Burkhead, 1888-90; W. H. Hawks, 1890-94; R. D. Briggs, 1894-99; W. D. Sterling, 1899-1901; H. E. Agnew, 1901-02; J. K. Osgerby, 1902-1908; Fred Fullerton, 1908.

E. D. Galloway graduated in 1869 and was the first from the Howell schools. The total number of graduates to date is 526 of whom twenty-two were in the last class. Thorough work has always characterized the schools and this fact has attracted a large list of foreign pupils. The High School now numbers about 150 of whom over half are foreign students. The total school enrollment is now 595. The total cost of running the schools last year was \$12,561 of which \$8,457 was for teachers' salaries. The schools received \$1,144.37 for tuition of foreign pupils last year.

Howell has always recognized the importance of a good school board, and elected its best citizens to membership there. The present board with time of service of each, is as follows: Thomas Gordon Jr. 20 years; W. P. VanWinkle, 16 years; E. A. Stowe, 8 years; Lyman Thompson, 1 year; Dr. C. E. Skinner, 1 year. E. K. Johnson and E. C. Shields, who retired from the board at the last school meeting, had both served for several years.

The present corps of teachers is as follows; Super

intendent, Fred Fullerton, mathematics; Grace Bailey, science; Alma Sharp, Greek and Latin; Lois Bach, English; Lillian Andrews, session and librarian; Alice Johnson, German and History; Kate Ru-en, music and drawing. Eighth grade, Leona Morton; Sixth and Seventh grades, Mae Marshall and Carolyn Pierson; Fourth and Fifth grades, Mable Woodward and Bessie Lane; Second and Third grades, Blanche Crandle, Alma Hetchler and Mary Itsell; Beginners and First grade, Goldie Holt, Susie Barron and Ione Parker.

In 1886 the Central building had become so crowded that the basement had been utalized for school rooms, a condition which was not admired by parents of children who were quartered there. Everone agreed that a new building was a necessity but the question of location was a source of much division. It was settled a year later, by the agreement to build two four room buildings. The east ward building was erected in 1888 and Miss Emma Lamb who had taught for several years in the Central building, became the first principal there. The total cost of the building was \$4,867.85, not including grading, side walks, wells, out building, etc. The West Ward building was erected in 1890 and cost a few dollars more than the East Ward building.

In 1863 a young man named Embury, who had just graduated from a business college at Fenton, was backed by his father to come to Howell and start a

bank. He was associated with other gentlemen under the firm name of Brockway Embury & Co. and their bank was called the Exchange. The young gentleman led a very fast life here and is remembered by older settlers for his hunting outfit, high blooded hounds, etc. It did not take him a great while to run through with his property and he soon passed off the scenes here. This bank was started in a building about where H. K. White & Co. are now doing business. In 1865 the building now occupied by the McPherson bank was erected for its use.

As previously detailed in this history, Alex. McPherson & Co. opened a bank in a small office partitioned in one corner of the building which stood where Parker's drug store now stands, in 1865. In 1868 this bank purchased the building, fixtures and business of the Exchange bank and has done business there since that time.

About a year ago a former resident of Howell who had occasion to travel across the pine barrens of Northern Michigan found Embury there, struggling for a mere existance on one of those sandy forties. After an exchange of stories of the old life in Howell, Embury said: "Now I'm up here on forty acres of land trying to raise white beans to live on. There's one thing I've got to console myself. I lived while I lived."

Had John Weimeister died a month before he did, his name would have gone down in history, as one of

the most aggressive and public spirited citizens, who has ever boosted for Howell. Born in Germany, in 1824, he came to this country in 1854. His first business enterprise was a boot, shoe and grocery store in Genoa, where what has long been known as the "Dutch Grocery" now stands. Later he ran the mills at Oak Grove. In 1863 he associated himself with Neil O'Hearn, and they opened a bank in Howell. Mr. Weimeister at once commenced the erection of the block which long bore his name and which includes Hotel Livingston and the Whitacre building just east, which was their bank building. Several other buildings about town are monuments to his enterprise. Among them is the building which was occupied by A. J. Prindle's department store for many years. In this building the firm of Weimeister & O'Hearn ran a large general store during a good part of the time they did business together. Along in the '80s his health gave way and when the crisis came after the dissolution of the old firm of Weimeister & O'Hearn, which occurred August 14, 1889, and he had associated his son Albert with him in business the condition of his health prevented that activity which would have saved the financial crash, and the doors of his various business enterprises were closed. His failure came like a thunderbolt to the community and was followed in about ten days by his death, Thursday, October 3, 1889.

Mr. Weimeister's property was invested largely in

real estate, which went at very low prices at the forced sale and the various creditors, including bank depositors, were heavy losers.

When Edward P. Gregory was nine months old his father the late Rev. Edward E. Gregory built a house which is now a part of the house in which Mr. Gregory has his office, and the family became residents of Howell village.

As a young man Mr. Gregory studied law with Wileox & Waddell and took lectures at the State University. He was examined and admitted with Dennis Shields. For a year he practiced law at Corunna and would probably have continued in that line but for the changes brought about by the war, and the fact that he became part of the provost marshal's force in the sixth congressional district, with head quarters at Flint.

When the war closed Mr. Gregory returned to Howell and formed a partnership with F. N. Monroe in the hardware business, under the firm name of Monroe & Gregory. Soon after engaging in business the firm bought the building which occupied the site at the corner of Grand River and State streets, where they continued until 1872 when Mr. Gregory sold his interests to Mr. Monroe who continued the business until the big fire of March 12, 1887, when the building and stock were the first of the many burned. A year or so after that Mr. Monroe moved to the upper peninsula.

After retiring from the hardware business Mr. Gregory engaged in real estate. He also served the town as justice of the peace for eight years, when he was identified with the movement in the erection of the milk factory in 1892 and became superintendent there. He held this position for nine years, four of which he was also superintendent of the Lansing factory. During his superintendency the business of the Howell factory was developed from nothing to seventy-five tons of milk per day.

Since leaving the factory Mr. Gregory has built up an excellent herd of Holsteins upon his farm, looked after his real estate and loaning interests and secured what enjoyment he could from life. In an interview recently he said "I am approaching the allotted years of man. I have enjoyed my life and I have never seen a time when nature looked brighter. The song of the birds never sounded sweeter. My friends are dearer to me than they ever were before."

At various times Mr. Gregory served as township clerk, councilman, village president and circuit court commissioner. He has always been a leading worker and held official positions in the Presbyterian church. He was chairman of the citizens committee which secured the Sanitorium for Howell and has always been an energetic and loyal citizen for the town. He has often been tendered high political positions but has refused them. His candidacy for elector to vote for Taft and Sherman, was over his protest.

The "Know Nothing" movement or Native American Party as it called itself, grew up along in the '50s, in the form of secret lodges. Its existence in Howell was not generally known until early in the 60's, when the lodge was occupying a hall in the second story of the building where Parker's drug store is now. At that time the entrance to the second story was by way of a stairway which led up to a porch on the front. There was also a stairway at the back end of the building. The strength of the "Know Nothings" became an important one in that political campaign and George Wilber undertook to find out by counting how many men went up to their meeting. In some way it got to the men of the organization what was going on and a plan was quickly fixed up so that the members would go up the front stairway and then down the rear way. They would then walk around a block or two and go up again. Wilber's count ran up into the hundreds and the strength of Howell's lodge of "Know Nothings" not only scared local politicians but got to the ears of state political workers who were set very much to wondering if the new party had as many followers in other towns. It was not until after election and the new party showed up with only a small vote that the affair leaked out in detail.

Mr. Wilber seems to have been a regular pessimist. He ardently opposed all railroad agitation with the argument that there would not be enough people who

could afford to travel between here and Detroit, to pay expenses. He predicted that at the greater expense for running the railroad they would have to charge so much more than the stage coaches that they wouldn't carry as many passengers as were then riding on those vehicles.

John W. Wright built the first planing mill in Howell in 1869, on Clinton street between Center and Walnut streets. It was burned April 27, 1875. Mr. Wright soon after built the planing mill south of the Pere Marquette railroad, which is still managed by his son Frank Wright.

Along in the '60s Howell citizens began to make themselves felt in the political world. George W. Lee was a presidential elector in 1860. John H. Galloway was State Senator in 1861, and William A. Clark in 1863. Henry H. Harmon was Representative in the State Legislature in 1863, and Milo L. Gay in 1869.

Dennis Shields was born Sept. 19, 1836 and came to Howell early in 1859. He studied law with H. H. Harmon and was admitted to the bar Dec. 31, 1861, settling in Howell for the practice of that profession. He rapidly advanced and for several years, there were very few cases of importance which were tried in this county, in which he was not upon one side or the other. His popularity is attested by the fact that at eight different times he was elected prosecuting attorney. He was president of the village at

one time and served in several other official positions. In 1872 he formed a partnership with John C. Shields, which lasted for three years. During all his life Mr. Shields was a leader for all laudable public enterprises, a good citizen in the community. He died Aug. 30, 1898.

Edmund C. Shields, his son was admitted to practice in 1896 and his brother Francis J. Shields was admitted in November, 1898. They succeeded to the practice of their father which they have maintained and built up, under the firm name of Shields & Shields.

Another who settled in Howell about the same time as Mr. Shields, was H. G. Briggs who arrived here in 1856. Soon after coming Mr. Briggs engaged in the jewelry business which he followed until his death, a few years ago, earning the title which he carried for several years of the pioneer jeweler.

Mr. Briggs was strong in argument and for several years was one of the leading speakers for the Republican party, in every political campaign in this county.

Asa VanKleck came to Howell in 1853 and worked as contractor and carpenter, considerable of the time some years, with Frank Kelly. When the Presbyterian church was built, they bought the old church and used it for some years as their shop. In 1863 Mr. VanKleck formed a partnership with George L. Sage under the firm name of Sage & VanKleck, and started a grocery store. This firm lasted but a short

time when Mr. VanKleeck tried farming on the old Charles P. Bush farm in Genoa. In 1883 he purchased the furniture stock of Wm. Griffith after that gentleman's death. He continued in the furniture business until about five years ago, when he sold that business to Schnackenberg Bros. who added undertaking to the line. When the First State and Savings Bank was organized he became a director, a position which he has continued to hold. He has been vice president of the bank since the death of Charles Curtis.

A list of persons who have held offices is given below, but it is incomplete for the years between 1836 and 1850, for the reason that the old township record covering those years has been lost or destroyed, and only a partial and defective list of officers elected during that period has been gathered from other sources. Such as are given, however, are known to be authentic, viz:

1837.—Supervisor, John W. Smith; Town Clerk, Jonathan Austin; Justices of the Peace, George W. Kneeland, John W. Smith.

1838.—Supervisor, Rial Lake; Town Clerk, John W. Smith; Justices of the Peace, John T. Watson, Odell J. Smith, Wellington A. Glover.

1839.—Town Clerk, Morris Thompson; Justice of the Peace, Allen C. Weston.

1840.—Town Clerk, Morris Thompson; Justice of the Peace, Gardner Wheeler.

1841.—Town Clerk, Morris Thompson; Justice of the Peace, John W. Smith.

1842.—Supervisor, George W. Kneeland; Town Clerk, M. S. Brennan; Justice of the Peace, Josiah Turner.

1843.—Supervisor, George W. Kneeland; Justice of the Peace, Odell J. Smith,

1844.—Supervisor, Rial Lake; Town Clerk, Gardner Wheeler; Justice of the Peace, James H. Ackerson; Treasurer, William McPherson; School Inspector, Edward E. Gregory; Directors of the poor, Derastus Hinmon, Viceroy Curtis.

1845.—Supervisor, Odell J. Smith; Town Clerk, Gardner Wheeler; Justice of the Peace, John W. Smith, Nelson G. Isbell; (to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Josiah Turner).

1846.—Supervisor, Gardner Wheeler; Town Clerk, Lauren K. Hewett; Justice of the Peace, William Lewis.

1847.—Supervisor, Odell J. Smith; Town Clerk, L. K. Hewett; Justice of the Peace, Richard B. Hall, Samuel M. Yerkes (to fill vacancy).

1848.—Supervisor, Frederick C. Whipple; Town Clerk, D. D. T. Chandler; Justice of the Peace, Lauren K. Hewett, George W. Kneeland (to fill vacancy)

1849.—Supervisor, William McPherson; Town Clerk, Henry H. Harmon; Justice of the Peace, John W. Smith.

1850.—Supervisor, Gardner Wheeler; Clerk, Henry H. Harmon; Treasurer John B. Kneeland; Justice of the Peace, Henry Lake; Commissioner of high-

ways, Edward Thompson; School Inspector, John A. Wheeler; Directors of the Poor, Richard P. Bush, Josiah Turner,

1851.—Supervisor, Derastus Hinman; Clerk, John A. Wheler; Treasurer, John B. Kneeland; Justices of the Peace, John H. Galloway (full term), William More (to fill vacancy); Highway Commissioner, David Carl; School Inspector, Gardner Wheeler; Directors of the Poor, James M. Murray, William L. Wells.

1852.—Supervisor, Richard P. Bush; Clerk, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, John B. Kneeland; Justices of the Peace, Gardner Wheeler (full term), William Moore (to fill vacancy); Highway Commissioner, Elisha H. Smith; School Inspector, William A. Clark; Directors of the Poor, John D. Gifford, Josiah Turner.

1853.—Supervisor, Richard P. Bush; Clerk, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, John B. Kneeland; Justice of the Peace, L. K. Hewett; Highway Commissioner, Samuel M. Yerkes; School Inspector, Gardner Wheeler.

1854.—Supervisor, Gardner Wheeler; Clerk, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, John B. Kneeland; Justice of the Peace, William More; Highway Commissioner, Daniel Case; School Inspector, William A. Clark.

1855.—Supervisor, Willim C. Rumsey; Clerk, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, John B. Kneeland; Justice of the Peace, Odell J. Smith; Commissioner of Highways, Dexter Filkins, Wm. Lake; School Inspector, Wm. B. Jewett.

1856.—Supervisor, William H. Rumsey; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom; Justice of the Peace, Mylo L. Gay; Treasurer, Nathan Pond; Highway Commissioner, Charles Root; School Inspector, George P. Root.

1857.—Supervisor, John B. Kneeland; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, Andrew Blanck; Justice of the Peace, Daniel Case; Highway Commissioner, David Lewis; School Inspector, John Huston.

1858.—Supervisor, John H. Galloway; Clerk, Henry C. Briggs; Treasurer, John W. Richmond; Justice of the Peace, Andrew D. Waddell; Highway Commissioner, Dexter J. Filkins; School Inspector, B. Howard Lawson (full term), William B. Jewett (to fill vacancy.)

1859.—Supervisor, John H. Galloway; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, John W. Richmond; Justice of the Peace, John Marr; Highway Commissioners Charles Root, Stephen S. More; School Inspector, J. A. Pond.

1860.—Supervisor, John H. Galloway; Clerk E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, John W. Richmond; Justice of the Peace, Mylo L. Gay (full term), William Lake (to fill vacancy); Highway Commissioner, Stephen S. More; School Inspector, Andrew Blanck.

1861.—Supervisor, William C. Rumsey; Clerk. E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, Henry C. Briggs; Justice of the Peace, Daniel Case; School Inspector, Jabez A. Pond; Highway Commissioner, Solomon Hildebrant.



A. HOWELL CHAMPION

1862.—Supervisor, William C. Rumsey; Clerk E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, Giles Tucker; Justice of the Peace, Dennis Shields; Highway Commissioner, George Wakefield; School Inspector, Henry H. Harmon (full term), J. Bruce Fishbeck (vacancy.)

1863.—Supervisor, Giles Tucker; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, Leonard B. Wells; Justice of the Peace, William Lake (full term), William More (vacancy); Highway Commissioners, Stephen More George Wakefield; School Inspectors, Ebenezer Bunnell (full term), George Wilber, (vacancy).

1864.—Supervisor, Giles Tucker; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom; Treasurer, Leonard B. Wells; Justice of the Peace, Mylo L. Gay; Highway Commissioner, Solomon Hildebrant; School Inspectors, Elijah F. Burt (full term), Dennis Shields (vacancy)

1865.—Supervisor, Almon Whipple; Clerk, E. Rollin Bascom (died during this term, which was completed by Wallace W. Carpenter); Justice of the Peace, Daniel Case; Treasurer, Leonard B. Wells; School Inspectors W. W. Carpenter (full term), Dennis Shields (vacancy).

1866—Supervisor, Isaac W. Bush; Clerk, Royal H. Rumsey; Treasurer, Lorenzo B. Sullivan; Justice of the Peace, Wallace W. Carpenter; Highway Commissioner, Stephen S. More; School Inspector, Dennis Shields

1867—Supervisor, Oren H. Winegar; Clerk, Royal H. Rumsey; Treasurer, Elbert H. Bush; Justice of

the Peace, Frederick H. Whipple; Highway Commissioner, Solomon Hildebrant; School Inspector, Wallace W. Carpenter

1868—Supervisor, Oren H. Winegar; Clerk, Henry T. Clark; Treasurer, Elbert C. Bush; Justice of the Peace, Nicholas Lake; Highway Commissioner, Jesse Marr; School Inspector, Philander Bennett.

1869—Supervisor, O. H. Winegar; Clerk, Royal H. Rumsey; Treasurer, William B. Smith; Justice of the Peace, William More; Highway Commissioner, S. S. More; School Inspector, Ferdinand W. Munson.

CHAPTER X

Midst Blessings of Peace

On July 4, 1871, a meeting was held at the Melvin House, to organize a Pioneer Society. After discussing the proposition, an adjournment was taken to M. L. Gay's office in the rooms which are now Tidings office. William C. Rumsey was elected chairman and M. L. Gay, secretary. A committee was selected to draft a constitution and bylaws, and arrangements were made for a public meeting, which was addressed by Judge Turner at the Court House, on Wednesday evening, September 27, 1871. The committee failed to have its constitution ready, but M. L. Gay had anticipated such a situation, and prepared one which was adopted. It provided that all persons, who were residents of the county previous to July 4, 1845, were pioneers, and eligible to membership. At the annual meeting in 1877, this was changed to 1850, and in 1880, it was changed so that all who resided in the county previous to 1855, were considered as pioneers, and entitled to membership.

In 1871, A. G. Blood & Company started a five column quarto weekly newspaper, which they named the Howell Independent. It never paid expenses, and after nine months, was sold to J. D. Smith and Charles E. Cooper. Mr. Smith took part of the material to

the Republican office. Mr. Cooper continued the paper for a couple of months longer, and then gave it up.

In the early '60s, William McPherson & Sons developed a merchant tailoring department, in which, in 1874, George Hornung was employed, and in which Arthur Garland became cutter, about a year later. This department did quite a little manufacturing for the clothing store of the firm. In 1879, Messrs. Garland and Hornung, then young men, formed a partnership and bought the department in which they were employed. By energy and skill, they succeeded in building up a large business with two or three men on the road, and their's soon became the leading industry of the town. In fact, there has been no time since they first went into business, but that the tailors, whom they employed, formed one of the largest bodies of working people in Howell.

After some years, Owen W. Kellogg, who was an experienced clothing salesman with William McPherson & Sons, entered the partnership with Garland & Hornung, the new firm being named, Kellogg, Garland & Company, and a stock of ready made clothing was put in. Mr. Garland withdrew from this firm in 1892, after which it was known as Kellogg & Hornung, continuing for another year. Mr. Hornung then engaged in merchant tailoring in his own name, and has done a prosperous business for the past fifteen years. Mr. Kellogg went west.

After withdrawing from the old firm, Mr. Garland engaged in merchant tailoring, in which he has built up a large trade. In addition to his store here, he maintains one at Jackson and several agencies in the west, doing all the manufacturing in Howell. He also ran a macintosh factory here, for some years.

Thirteen years ago, Mr. Garland purchased the Opera House, which he has since managed. He became a partner in the Bennett Hardware Company, which bought out Benedict & Ratz in 1907.

Howell was visited by Catholic Priests as early as 1836 or '37. Rev. Fr. Kelly of Northville, was probably the first to hold services in Howell. The erection of country churches not far away, in different directions probably centered their worshippers there and made a long delay before the organization in Howell. Along in the '70s Rev. Fr. Daugherty of Brighton, who is remembered as an energetic worker, well liked by everyone, started the work here and St. Joseph's church is the result. The original church, 40x70 feet in size, was commenced in August, 1878, and completed the following year. It was enlarged and greatly improved about six years ago. With the commodious rectory and beautiful brick church, the society has a fine property. Under the most efficient leadership of Rev. Fr. Thornton, its prospects for a growing future are excellent.

Fobes Crossman came to Howell in the early '50s and soon after became a partner with F. J. Lee and

Alex. McPherson in their general store. This firm lasted but a short time, after which Mr. Crossman prospected for business in Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis and other places but returned to Howell in 1858 and formed a partnership with Wm. B. Jewett in the general mercantile business. May 1, 1873, Mr. Crossman bought his partner's interests and continued the business until his death Dec. 1, 1876.

In the settlement of his estate Mrs. Crossman who was administratrix, sold the business to Frank J. Hickey and Charles M. Goodnow.

Frank J. Hickey was born in New York state and came to Howell with his parents, N. J. Hickey and wife, when a small boy. When a young man he clerked three years for Wm. McPherson and afterwards formed a partnership with James B. Wing in the grocery business. After some years Mr. Wing purchased his interests in that firm and Mr. Hickey was out of business at the time of the death of J. F. Crossman heretofore noted, and the forming of his partnership with Mr. Goodnow.

Charles A. Goodnow came to Howell in 1875. For some time he clerked for Mr. Jewett and later for J. F. Crossman. He was in the latter position when Mr. Crossman died.

The firm of Hickey & Goodnow, which was organized in 1877 was at once one of the leaders in the dry goods line and continued in that position until the death of Mr. Hickey which occurred in the great fire

of 1892. Mrs. Hickey and the estate held their interest in the business until 1899 when they sold to Homer N. Beach and the firm has since been known under the name of Goodnow & Beach, their business holding up and increasing as the years go by.

When the war broke out Birt Parsons of Brighton, was under age. That made little difference to one of his get there qualities and he skipped out to enlist. That he found a place in the First Michigan Cavalry a part of Custer's brigade, indicates that he was not very long in making up his mind to get into the great conflict and that he saw something of the war in its awful reality. Soon after mustering out in 1865, Mr. Parsons became a clerk for Wm. McPherson & Sons, where he remained until 1871

This history has heretofore told the story of the pioneer shoe shop of J. B. Skilbeck one of the first in Howell This business developed until in the latter '60s it was quite a factory, located just west of the McPherson stores and employing over twenty men When Mr. Skilbeck's son Pearley, became of age, he entered the business with his father, the firm being known as J. B. Skilbeck & Son. About that time they purchased the brick building now occupied by Sweet's grocery, and moved there. In 1871 Mr. Parsons bought an interest in this firm which was then known as J. B. Skilbeck & Co.

About six years later Homer N. Beach united with Mr Parsons in buying the Skilbeck interests and the

firm became Parsons & Beach. A stock of groceries had been added to the shoe line and the factory discontinued some time before this.

When Mr. Parsons became vice president of the Michigan Condensed Milk Co. and went to New York, nearly twenty years ago, this firm was dissolved and Mr. Beach continued the business until about the time of his partnership with C. A. Goodnow, nine years ago, to form the present firm of Goodnow & Beach.

Feb. 22, 1860, Howell experienced its second large fire. It originated in the foundry and machine shop of A. M. Smith & Co. which was totally destroyed. Wm. R. Melvin's carriage and blacksmith shops and the stage company's barns, owned by E. E. Hazzard, were also burned. The total loss was estimated by the Republican at that time, at \$16,425 which was quite a sum for those days and awakened the people to the need of some organized method of fighting fire. The matter soon took form for March 6, 1860, a meeting of citizens was held to consider the matter. It was nearly ten years however before anything definite was done.

January 18, 1868 an ordinance was passed defining a certain district down town in which no wooden buildings should be erected. This district has been changed several times.

January 24, 1870, a resolution was adopted by the Common Council providing for the purchase of a hand

fire engine known as the Fire King, provided it should prove satisfactory, but it did not. Four years later, on January 3, 1874 the Champion Fire Extinguisher, the old chemical engine, was purchased for \$2,000, of which half was paid that year and the other half the year following.

Having an engine it became necessary to organize a fire company. It was at first composed of the following members: John Neary, John McCloud, William F. Griffith, Patrick Hammill, Thomas Clark, Leonard Fishbeck, George Harrington, Perley Skilbeck, Frank Ackerman, Frank Archer, Charles G. Jewett, Mark Rubert, Homer N. Beach, Theodore Huntley, E. A. Young, Thomas McEwen, Henry Wilbur, Peter Clark, Birt F. Parsons, Edward Waldron, H. T. Browning, Edward Greenaway, F. G. Hickey, H. G. Sellman, William Beattie, George L. Clark, G. S. Burgess, R. H. Brown, Cassius Austin and Thoms G. Switzer.

The first fire company was organized by electing the following officers:

Foreman, John Neary; First Assistant Foreman, Thomas Clark; Second Assistant Foreman, Edward Waldron; Pipeman, R. H. Brown; Second Pipeman, John McCloud; Superintendent of Chemicals, E. A. Young; Assistant Superintendent of Chemicals, Henry Wilber; Secretary, William F. Griffith; Treasurer, Patrick Hammill.

Over a year later, May 24, 1875. the Council took action for a suitable house for the fire engine and

company. The lot was purchased for \$875, of Wm. McPherson & Sons, and the building was erected by Frank Kelly for \$2,917.52.

It is worthy of note that this building was only what was considered necessary for use of the fire department at that time, with the addition of a Council Room. Since then the department's facilities have doubled and more; the street commissioner's tools and supplies are stored in the building; the electrical shop has driven the fire department out of its hall for meeting purposes; and several other things have found a headquarters there. The result of this crowding has developed a feeling on the part of the department that it is not properly appreciated and its condition is one dangerously near disorganization. As no ground can be purchased for an addition to the present building, there is a growing sentiment for the sale of the present building and the erection of a new one adequate for present needs.

The erection of the water works system in 1894 made a complete revolution in the department's equipment. It still keeps the chemical engine however, for use in two or three districts which are not yet reached by the water mains.

Charles G. Jewett is a Howell production. Until about four years ago he slept in the room where he was born. Descendant of a pioneer family he has seen Howell's development and has always been a leader along the line of

its improvement. Nov. 1, 1870, Mr. Jewett became a Howell businessman by the purchase of the old Andrews & Winans hardware. Two years later he built the block which long bore his name but is now known by the name of Goodnow.

About twelve years ago he moved his business to the Crossman building which he occupied for about eight years. Four years ago he left the general hardware trade to engage in plumbing and steam fitting in which he is a heavy contractor and a leading member of the state association. He has done the work in his life at the State Sanitorium. A year ago he added electrical supplies to that line and is now enjoying a large business with a number of regular employees.

As heretofore noted the Howell post office was established Jan. 15, 1836, Flavius J. B. Crane was the first postmaster and the post office was in the Eagle Hotel.

Ely Barnard was appointed to the office June 13, 1839. He first located the office in the building near where Schroeder's hardware now stands, but later moved to E. F. Gay's store. John Curtis was his deputy and conducted the office,

Almon Whipple was appointed Feb. 9, 1841. He held the office four months and continued it in the Gay store.

Wellington A. Glover was appointed May 31, 1841, and continued the office in the Gay store. S. F.

Hubbell then a law student, acted as his deputy.

Almon Whipple was re-appointed Sept. 1, 1843, and moved the office to his store on the site now occupied by the Detroit Mercantile Co.

George W. Lee became postmaster April 14, 1849, and located the office in Lee Bros. store, on the site now occupied by Mouroe Bros.

Derastus Hinman was appointed June 7, 1853, and moved the office to his store on the south side of Grand River street.

Frank Wells was appointed postmaster Feb. 25, 1855. His office was in a drug store a few doors east of where Tidings now is.

Leander C. Smith was appointed March 16, 1861. For four years he maintained the post office in the Lee store where Monroe Brothers now are. He then moved the office to the site now occupied by the Porter Clothing Co.

Henry T. Clark was appointed March 8, 1866, and reappointed June 1, 1868. He continued the office where Mr. Smith had kept it until the building was burned, and then moved to a building where Hotel Livingston now stands.

William W. Kenyon became postmaster August 20, 1868, and was re-appointed December 10, 1873. Under his management the office was elevated to the presidential class. Mr. Kenyon at first maintained the office one door west of the McPherson store. He moved from there to the site now occupied by Mar-

vin's jewelry store, later to the Cardell block, and still later to the store now occupied by Schnackenberg Brothers.

Julius D. Smith became postmaster Dec. 14, 1877. He moved the office to the site now occupied by Mrs. Williams' millinery store.

When Charles E. Beurmann became postmaster December 15, 1881, quite a struggle was on as to whether "Peanut Row" as the buildings facing State Street were called, should keep the office. Mr. Beurmann had leased the Greenaway building and paid \$25 of rent, on condition that he received the appointment. When this became known the "Peanut Row" forces worked hard against his appointment. So confident were they that Mr. Beurmann would not receive the appointment that Mr. Greenaway leased his store to Henry P. Spencer's drug store and Charles H. Brown's jewelry store. They were hardly settled however before the appointment came and they had to move out.

Isaac W. Bush was appointed postmaster January 20, 1886, and moved the office back to "Peanut Row." The big fire spoiled that place and he then moved to the room now occupied by the bar room of Hotel Livingston. The old fight for "Peanut Row" was compromised by Dr. W. J. Mills building a new building especially for the post office, where the Livingston Democrat has been since its present management took charge. Mr. Bush moved the office there

January 16, 1890, Thomas G. Switzer succeeded Mr. Bush and soon after moved the office to the room now occupied by Goodnow & Beech. After the second big fire, Mr. Goodnow desired to occupy his old quarters and the post office was moved to the Opera House block.

Henry D. Wilber became postmaster March 9, 1894, and moved to the store now occupied by the Whipple saloon. During the latter part of his administration George Barnes secured a contract with the government for a lease in the present quarters, and erected his building with the post office idea for its ground floor occupant. Mr. Wilbur moved the office there just before he retired from the position and there it has since remained.

Timothy Smith became postmaster May 5, 1898. During his administration the rural delivery has been worked up to nine routes and a complete new outfit, up-to-the-minute in design, has been put in. The office has been running just too low but very near to the line for second class for some time past, and is booked for that change July 1st.

June 28, 1876, a meeting was held at the Council rooms and a county medical society was organized. Howell names on the roll were Z. Hawley Marsh, Wm. L. Wells, Robert C. Hutton, Cyrus Mather, Charles G. Cruickshank, Casper V. Beebe, Henry N. Spencer, Andrew Blank and Horace R. Hitchcock. Other physicians of town, who were obliged

to be absent from that meeting, afterwards gave their names to the secretary, but this was nearly all there was to the life of this organization.

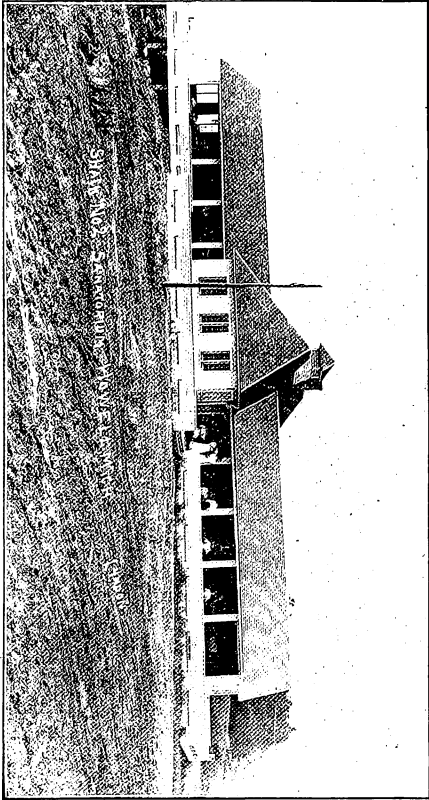
Medical societies of the country were considerably mixed up for several years but straightened out in 1902. The present plan calls for county medical societies affiliated with each other, forming district, state and finally the American Medical Society. A meeting was held in Howell, in 1903 and the Livingston County Medical Society was organized. It now includes all physicians of the county. Dr. Irwin of Oak Grove, is now its president, and Dr. R. H. Baird of Howell, its secretary-treasurer. The executive committee is Drs. Brown and Brigham of Howell. Dr. Claud Irwin of Hartland, Dr. Claud Sigler of Pinckney and Dr. Cohen of Brighton. Howell members are Dr. Wm. C. Huntington, Dr. R. H. Baird, Dr. E. H. Bailey, Dr. Janette Brigham, Dr. J. E. Browne and Dr. C. E. Skinner.

Howell had a Good Templars lodge along in the '60s, which did excellent work. Its records are lost however and little tangible can be learned. Another lodge was organized at the close of a meeting in the Presbyterian church, Oct. 8, 1874, by Charles P. Russell, then Past Grand Worthy Chief Templar of that order in Michigan. Julius D. Smith was its first Worthy Chief Templar and Mrs. H. G. W. Fry its first Worthy Vice Templar. This lodge was for many years one of the strongest social organizations

in the town and did a good work for the cause. Quite a number of those who had felt the curse of liquor were induced to take its obligations and became useful citizens through its influences. Several of the most active of Howell's temperance workers at the present day received their early inspiration for the cause in the teachings of this order.

Among its active workers was Mrs. T. B. Knapp, whom the author of this history had the privilege of nominating successively, as District Secretary, Grand Vice Templar, and Grand Superintendent of Juvenile Temples, to each of which positions she was elected. She was elected one of the delegates from the Grand Lodge of Michigan to the Right Worthy Grand Lodge which met in Edinborough, Scotland, in 1891, and to the sessions at Des Moines Iowa, Chicago, Ill., Saratoga, N. Y., Washington, D. C., Toronto, Ont., and Richmond, Va.

Nov. 19, 1886 the Livingston Herald was established by the author of this history who was then a student in the law office of Hon. Rollin H. Person then practicing law in Howell. As is the custom with young lawyers, we were then dabbling as a real estate agent and wanted an advertising medium. Uncle Sam was not as particular in entering second class publications in those days, and the little Herald, composed of four pages of two columns each, and forming a sheet 8x10 inches in size when opened, was easily admitted to the mails even if its third page was



filled with advertising for its publisher. By the fourth issue Andrew Whitaker then a Howell grocer, wanted advertising space. Stephen Pratt, then a Howell druggist, soon followed. By the seventh week it became necessary to enlarge to a three-column size.

After the big fire in March 1887, the Herald business had grown so that it became necessary to abandon either that or the legal profession and the Herald was chosen. At the end of four years its first publisher sold the paper, a successful 6-column folio, to accept a position on the Toledo Evening News where he remained for ten years.

Messrs. J. L. Pettibone & Son who purchased the paper, published it but a few months and then sold to Thomas W. Brewer who has maintained it as a 6-column quarto, since that time.

The old court house was for many years an honor to the County. Then its surroundings outgrew the building and it became an eyesore to everyone. It was several times a subject for discussion however, before action looking toward improvement could be secured from the board of supervisors. They finally submitted a proposition to build a new sheriff's residence and jail at an expense of \$8,000, which was voted upon in the spring of 1887. The townships of Brighton, Deerfield, Green Oak, Hartland, Handy, Iosco, Putman and Tyrone gave decided majorities against the project a total of 961 but the rest of the county gave a majority of 1,305 majority in its favor,

thus leaving a net majority of 344 in the county, for the project. The Supervisors took the necessary action at their next meeting, and the present sheriff's residence and jail was built the following year.

With the jail out of the old court house, sentiment for the new one was more rapid in forming. The supervisors submitted the question to voters, at their January session in 1889. The townships of Handy, Putnam, Hartland, Deerfield, Brighton, Green Oak, Tyrone and Unadilla rolled up a majority of 1059 against the project, but the other towns gave a majority of 1470 for the building, thus giving 411 majority in the county, and the new building was authorized.

The Board of Supervisors met April 21 of that year, and elected a building committee consisting of L. J. Wright of Howell, George W. Barnes of Tyrone, Vincent Parshall of Oceola, Thomas Howlett of Unadilla, and Daniel Sabin of Conway.

The corner stone was laid August 10, 1889, by Judge Turner. General R. A. Alger of Detroit, made the leading address, which was followed by a five-minutes address from a representative selected from each township.

W. P. VanWinkle was president of the day. Calvin Wilcox was marshall of the parade which preceded the exercises. There were vice presidents from each township.

The building was not completed until the following

year. The Opera House was rented for Circuit Court until the new building was ready.

In the fall of 1886 two young ladies came to Howell under orders of the American Salvation Army to establish a corps here. They were Capt. Carlson and Lieut. Brownell. The old Masonic hall in the Weimeister block had been leased before they came, and benches had been fitted up for the prospective audiences. From the start church people of Howell rallied to assist the army, and the meetings took on a strong swing from the very first. By the third night the two officers had one recruit to go with them on the march and others rapidly followed. In time as the corps became more prosperous, the skating rink was leased and its meetings there, from night to night, were probably the most largely attended religious meetings which have ever been held in Howell. The audience was often counted as it left the building and its average number was about 685. During the summer of 1887, Gen. Moore who was the head of the organization, visited Howell. The occasion was one of general recognition and brought several thousand people from this and neighboring counties.

A concerted movement was made by the army, the city churches and businessmen, to so favorably impress Gen. Moore that he would establish their state headquarters here, which was done. Two or three Howell people became officers and went out in the work, from here. In time however, new officers were appointed here, and the work lagged. Capt.

Carlson became Mrs. Nelson Yelland and Lieut. Brownell became Mrs. Will Fish. Both have always been respected ladies by all who have known them here.

Some time after the American Army ceased to exist in Howell, the organization headed by Gen. Booth secured a foothold here and continued with varying success for some years. Among its officers was Mrs. Ben Porter who for several years past has done excellent work with her husband who has been a Methodist pastor and successful evangelist.

On Saturday evening, March 12, 1887, as Andrew Whitaker and Burr Montague were going home after business places were shut up, they discovered the Monroe block at the corner of Grand River and State streets to be on fire. Mr. Montague ran to the side window which he had just reached when an explosion took place which threw him back across the sidewalk and over the hitching post, but not seriously injuring him. The inside of the building was torn from the basement to the roof and fire was thrown three stories, and onto adjoining roofs. In an instant the entire Monroe block was in flames and the fire spread very rapidly to adjoining buildings. E. P. Gregory who was then village president, telephoned to Ann Arbor and Lansing for help, and both of those cities responded promptly with steamers. Before they arrived however, the Greenaway block which stood at the west end of the square where the fire started, fell inward



LONG LAKE, FROM WEIMEISTER COTTAGE, NEAR HOWELL.

with a crash, thus making it possible to confine the fire to one square which could not have been done if it had fallen outward. The burned district covered the entire square of business blocks, except four small two-story buildings in the north-east corner. The loss was a very large one and divided among over thirty people and firms.

Just as the fire engine was pulled to the scene someone in the Court yard called "Tom Clark" and added some epithet, and fired. The shot just grazed Mr. Clark's clothing, glanced from the engine and hit Al. Fishbeck but its force was too much spent to do much damage. The crowd rushed across the street but failed to find the shooter in the darkness. The shot, with the fact that Mr. Monroe who was an active temperance worker, had received a letter threatening to burn him out if he didn't stop his prohibition work, caused considerable excitement at the time, but no one was ever brought to justice.

Tuesday, May 24, 1887, occurred the death of Jay Corson. Mr. Corson was born in Green Oak, and was always known to Howell people. After graduating from the law department of the University of Michigan in 1880. he was given such a welcome to Howell as few young men receive. After a few months he tried life in Alpena and Detroit, and returned to Howell in 1883. He was elected Circuit Court commissioner in the following campaign, and was village president in 1885, declining the honor of

a second nomination. In 1886 he was nominated for prosecuting attorney in the Republican county convention, by acclamation. His health failed so that he was not able to make a vigorous campaign, but he received more votes than any other candidate upon his ticket, and all but five votes in his native town of Green Oak. At the age of twenty-nine years, just as great prospects seemed to open before him, Jay Corson's life story closed here, to open in the hereafter.

Two or three efforts were made at various times to organize a Livingston County Sunday school association. A meeting was held in the Presbyterian church in 1888, and an organization was perfected. Frank Holden of Green Oak, was elected president and R. C. Reed then of Oeola, was secretary. The first county convention was also held in the Presbyterian church, on April 16 and 17 of that year, and was very successful. County Sunday school conventions were held regularly from that time forward, for a good many years and much good was accomplished. It was finally allowed to lapse however. A convention was held at the M. E. church last year and the organization was revived.

When the first organization was perfected each township in the county was reorganized by electing a president and secretary. A. Riley Crittenden was president of the Howell association and Mrs. Sarah T. Lyon secretary. The Howell association was active in the work during their term of office. The

officers which followed them allowed it to lapse.

In the early '80s, Profs. George Barnes and Thomas Gordon Jr. conducted a normal training school for teachers, in Howell, during the summer vacation. About fifty young people of the county availed themselves of the opportunity for review and preparation for the fall teachers' examination. The school proved such a complete success that a similar school was held by these gentlemen or other local educators for some years. The central school building was leased for the purpose and the Howell summer schools attracted considerable attention, drawing students from quite a territory beyond the county lines. They proved to be quite an enterprise too for the town, as the young people had to be maintained here, and quite a trade in all lines resulted.

Thompson's lake has always contained a number of springs from which flow very cold water. These form currents which often catch swimmers who attempt long distance swimming and dangerous cramps result. This has led to a number of drownings. Another cause of these catastrophies is the closeness to town and its temptation when the ice is not yet strong enough in the fall. One of the saddest of this latter was the drowning of Clifford Culver a bright, promising boy of twelve years, on Thursday, Nov. 22, 1888. For over half an hour the heroic boy hung to the ice and waited for the help which was vainly trying to reach him. At last benumbed

by the cold water called out his good byes and let go to sink out of sight, until the ice was broken to the spot and the body was recovered, about three hours later.

The last drowning in Thompson's lake, Thursday June 28, 1906, was also a peculiarly sad one. The victim was Kern Beurmann, a popular and promising young man who graduated from the Howell High School three years before, and had just completed his law course at the University of Michigan. He went to the lake for a swim. The day was very warm and he was without doubt attached with cramps which took him down. His body was not in the water a great while but it was impossible to resuscitate him.

In December, 1888, three or four cases of small pox developed in Howell and one in the country near town, Georgia Fishbeck who boarded with his uncle Murry Fishbeck, died of the dread disease. When the first cases developed every precaution was taken to head off a further spread of the disease and it was confidently expected that this had been accomplished. All three papers then published in Howell had items to the effect that there was no further danger. The day after they were issued C. J. Cook who was clerking in one of the stores came down with varioloid. Rumor confounded him with C. L. Cook the well-known grocer. The Pinckney Dispatch sounded a warning to keep away from Howell, and alleged that the papers and people here were misrepresenting the

situation. The scare worked and it was spring before it was over and business resumed its normal condition. There have been two or three similar scares at various times, but this one was probably the most severe the town has ever seen. During two or three weeks, at the height of the scare, only four teams went down Grand River street.

Late township officers are as follows:

1880—Supervisor, George W. Fitch; clerk, William F. Griffith; treasurer, Thomas G. Switzer; school inspector, Charles A. Phillips; superintendent of schools, Hugh Conklin. He resigned December 7, and Thomas Gordon Jr. was appointed; highway commissioner, William J. Walbran; drain commissioner, Harvey R. Durfee; Constables, Nelson A. Eckler, George B. Raymour, Charles E. Beurmann Jr., C. Franklin Dorrance.

1881—Supervisor, Timothy Smith; clerk, Henry D. Wilber; treasurer, William R. Miller; superintendent of schools, Thomas Gordon Jr. He resigned and Frank O. Burt was appointed; school inspector Horace P. Bump; highway commissioner, Eugene E. Latson; constables, Andrew J. Rounds, R. H. Rumsey, Edgar Noble, W. H. White.

1882—Supervisor, Albert Riddle; clerk, Seth B. Rubert; treasurer, William R. Miller; school inspector, two years, Harry J. Havens, one year, Sidney H. Burt; highway commissioner, David P. Lake; constable, William Brower, appointed by town board.

1883—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, Seth B. Rubert; treasurer, Leslie E. Woodruff; highway commissioner, David P. Lake; constables, Amos Winegar, P. McManus.

1884—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, William C. Spencer; treasurer, Leslie E. Woodruff; school inspector, David D. Harger; highway commissioner, Wesley W. Crittenden; drain commissioner, Isaac W. Stowe; constables, H. H. Clark, Benjamin H. Perkins.

1885—Supervisor, George W. Axtell; clerk, Seth B. Rubert; treasurer, Frank P. Archer; school inspector, Lewis C. Miller; highway commissioner, Thomas Hale; constables, H. H. Clark, S. D. Anderson, Jerome Wilber, Edwin Smith.

1886—Supervisor, Albert Riddle; clerk, Amos Winegar; treasurer, Louis J. Wright; school inspector, Frank D. Filkins; highway commissioner, Thomas Hale; drain commissioner, David P. Lake; constables, John Roustin, Robert A. Chambers, Alfred Copeland.

1887—Supervisor, Newton T. Kirk; clerk, William M. Force; treasurer, Timothy Smith; school inspector David D. Harger, vacancy, Jay Corson; highway commissioner, George Howard Jr.; constables, Walter S. Papworth, Charles H. White.

1888—Supervisor, Lewis J. Wright; clerk, Judd Yelland; treasurer, Timothy Smith; school inspector, Perry G. Burdick; highway commissioner, David P.

Lake; drain commissioner, James Canfield; constables, George Lown, Will Peavy.

1889—Supervisor, Lewis J. Wright; clerk, Judd Yelland; treasurer, Frank Crandall; school inspector Andrew B. Fishbeck; highway commissioner, Edwin W. Smith; drain commissioner, George Lown,

1890—Supervisor, Lewis J. Wright; clerk, B. L. Walker; treasurer, Frank Z. Hubbell; school inspector, Edward J. Drewery; justice of the peace, George B. Raymour, vacancy, David Robison; highway commissioner, Richard Hale; drain commissioner, William Line; constables, George Lown, E. D. McKinley John F. Marr; board, of review, Frank O. Burt, Gilbert L. Wolcott.

1891—Supervisor, Lewis J. Wright; clerk, George C. Allen; treasurer, Frank Z. Hubbell; school inspector, Charles Gilks; justice of the peace, E. P. Gregory; highway commissioner, Richard Hale; constables, Vernon C. Smith, George Lown, Julius B. Whitaker; member board of review, Gilbert L. Wolcott.

1892—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, Andrew B. Fishbeck; treasurer, James Ryan; school inspector, Vernon C. Smith, vacancy, Henry H. Wines; highway commissioner, Eurias Marr; drain commissioner, William Line; constables, L. J. Wright, George L. Lown; board of review, Gilbert L. Wolcott, David P. Lake.

1893—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, An-

drew B. Fishbeck; treasurer, James Ryan; school inspector Joseph S. Brown; justice of the peace, Vernon C. Smith; highway commissioner, Eurias Marr; member board of review, David P. Lake.

1894—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Amos Winegar; school inspector, M. L. Carpenter; justice of the peace, Eugene A. Stowe; highway commissioner, Richard Hale; drain commissioner, William Line; board of review, David P. Lake, Solomon Hildebrandt.

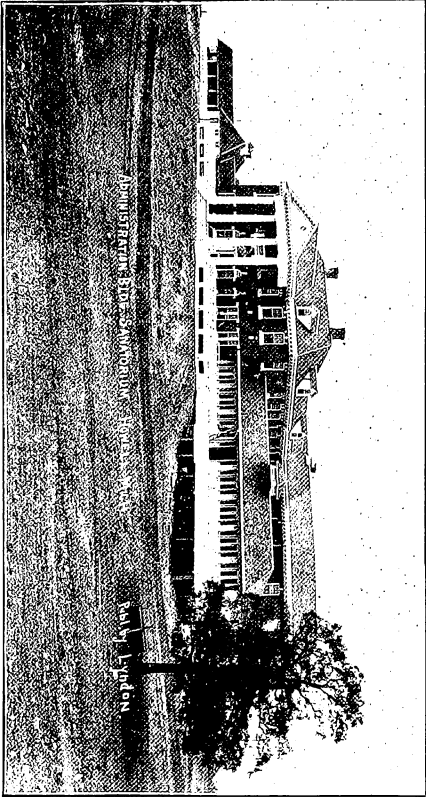
1895—Supervisor, Homer N. Beach; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Amos Winegar; school inspector, Roy Fitch; justice of the peace, Dwight H. Fitch; highway commissioner, Richard Hale; member board of review, Daniel Bergin.

1896—Supervisor, Amos Winegar; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer Walter W. Knapp; school inspector G. Clyde Brown; justice of the peace, Robert R. Wakefield; highway commissioner, Eurias Marr; constables, Lemuel A. Wight, Frank Durfee, Patrick Devlin, Stephen G. Fishbeck; member board of review, David P. Lake.

1897—Supervisor, Amos Winegar; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Walter W. Knapp; highway commissioner, Eurias Marr.

1898—Supervisor, Walter W. Knapp; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Richard E. Barron; highway commissioner, James E. Filkins.

1899—Supervisor, Walter W. Knapp; clerk, Frank



J. Holt; treasurer, Richard E. Barron; school inspector, Benjamin J. Wessinger; highway commissioner, James B. Filkins; constables, David P. Lake, Stephen G. Fishbeck; member board of review, Thomas Lamoreaux.

1900—Supervisor, Walter W. Knapp; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, John B. Barron; school inspector C. E. White; justice of the peace, David D. Harger; highway commissioner, William H. Peavy; constable, Stephen G. Fishbeck; member board of review, Eurias Marr.

1901—Supervisor, W. H. S. Wood; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, John B. Barron; school inspector Samuel M. Yerkes; justice of the peace, Richard D. Roche; highway commissioner, William H. Peavy; constables, Freeman Rorabacher, S. David Anderson; member board of review, Laverne D Brockway.

1902—Supervisor, W. H. S. Wood; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Plin G. Henry; school inspector, R. Bruce Satterla; justice of the peace, Glenn S. Mack; highway commissioner, William H. Peavy; constables, Samuel D. Anderson, Freeman Rorabacher, Henry H Collins.

1903—Supervisor, John Kirk; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, P. J. Henry.

1904—Supervisor, Tim P. Stowe; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Wilbur B. Johnson; school inspector, R. B. Satterla; justice of the peace, David D. Harger; to fill vacancy, Andrew J. Brown; highway

commissioner, Richard Hale; constables, Henry H. Collins, Stephen G. Fishbeck; member board of review, Eurias Marr.

1905—Supervisor, Tim P. Stowe; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Wilbur Johnson; school inspector, Howard Warner; justice of the peace, Richard Roche; highway commissioner, Richard Hale; constables, Stephen Fishbeck, F. Rorabacher, Roy Jubb, William H. Peavy; member board of review, Gilbert Sargent.

1906—Supervisor, E. Miller Beurmann; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, James H. Miner; school inspector, R. Bruce Satterla; justice of the peace, Alfred E. Papworth; highway commissioner, Frank M. Miner; constables, H. H. Collins, Freeman Rorabacher, William J. Culver, Harry L. Williams, member board of review, Frank R. Crandall; library directors, Thomas Gordon Jr., M. J. McPherson, W. H. S. Wood.

1907—Supervisor, E. Miller Beurmann; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, James H. Miner; school inspector, Howard C. Warner; vacancy, John Earl; justice of the peace, Herbert Satterle; highway commissioner, Eugene E. Howe; constables, Fred Sttcker, William J. Culver, Henry H. Collins, Fred Satterla; member board of review, Adelbert F. Peavy; library directors, George Barnes, Albert D. Thompson.

1908—Supervisor, E. Miller Beurmann; clerk,

Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Andrew J. Brown; school inspector, Wm. R. Whitaker; justice of the peace David D. Harger; library directors, R. Bruce McPherson, Geo. H. Chapel; Highway commissioner, Eugene E. Howe; constables, Wm. J. Culver, Albert Satterla, Henry H. Collins, Freeman Rorabacher; member board of review, Frank R. Crandall.

1909—Supervisor, E. Miller Beurmann; clerk, Frank J. Holt; treasurer, Andrew J. Brown; justice of the peace, Richard D. Roche; highway commissioner, John F. Lockwood; highway overseer, Charles Melentine; constibles Wm. F. Culver. Ray E. Latson, Henry H. Collins, Freeman Rorabacher; library directors, Louis S. Brooke, Martin J. McPherson; member of review, Adelbert F. Peavy.

CHAPTER XI

Up to Now

In 1880 Hunter & Holmes then building contractors here, commenced the erection of an opera house. The building was opened in 1881, with Joseph Jefferson. It was at once a convenience for the town which was fully appreciated and has always enjoyed a loyal patronage from Howell people for public meetings.

As a play house the patronage has been of the streaked order, sometimes strong and then not so good, but usually pretty fair for a town the size of Howell.

The building enterprise proved to heavy for the builders and the building went on the mortgage. It was owned for awhile by Detroit parties and was then purchased by Arthur Garland who has since managed it and conducted his business there.

October 2, 1892, fire broke out in the basement of Isaac Bush's grocery on Grand River street, between Division and State streets. The flue stop had fallen out of the chimney in the basement. People in the store adjoining, burned out some papers and truck, in their stove. The fire was drawn down through the chimney, with the result already given. It had a

good headway before discovered, and was soon beyond control. All the buildings in that block, fronting on Grand River street, except the east store, were burned. The loss was estimated at \$75,000,

Among the heavy losers were Hickey & Goodnow who occupied a double store. The building collapsed before anyone expected and several people had very narrow escapes. Oliver Cook had to be pulled out. Mrs. F. G. Hickey was caught by one foot, and called loudly for those near to get an axe and cut off her foot. Crowbars were secured and she was finally pried loose, with great effort.

Frank G. Hickey and Darwin Wines were very soon missed. Their remains were found in the ruins as soon as the fire was sufficiently under control so that the anxious ones could search for them. Mr. Hickey was senior member of the firm. Mr. Wines was a contractor and builder.

In the fall of 1890 Hon. Charles Fishbeck who was soon to retire from office of Judge of Probate, took steps to organize a second bank for Howell. J. A. May who had had some experience in the business was secured to lead in the enterprise and several good men were soon interested. Preliminary meetings were held in Fishbeck's office. The application for a charter was filed Nov. 28 of that year. The charter was granted Jan. 12, 1891.

Miller Bros. who had for years run a saloon and cigar factory, about that time bought the block where

they have since been. The room they vacated was fitted up for the bank which took the name of First State and Savings Bank of Howell, Michigan. The first officers were Charles Fishbeck, president; Frank G. Hickey, vice president; J. A. May, cashier; directors, Charles Curtis, Frank G. Hickey, Charles Fishbeck, Asa VanKleek, J. A. May, John Ryan, S. B. Rubert.

The bank opened for business Jan. 13, 1891.

The present board of directors are Charles A. Goodnow, Arthur Garland, Asa VanKleek, George Barnes, John Ryan, F. O. Burt, W. P. VanWinkle. The officers are, president, W. P. VanWinkle; vice president, Asa VanKleek; cashier, A. L. Smith; assistant cashier, L. R. Manning.

George H. Hazelwood who was the first agent here for the Ann Arbor R. R. interested himself in a factory project and raised the necessary money to secure A. A. and Fred Piatt and Edward Porter who moved here from Hudson with their bending works.

The company took the names of The Howell Manufacturer Co., and manufactured quite an extensive line of bent woodwork. In 1891 their works which stood near the present milk factory site, were burned. They were rebuilt upon a much smaller scale but were burned again in 1893. By this time they had worked up about all the available timber in this section and the works were never rebuilt here. The Piatts moved to Lansing.

Along in the '80s James M. Turner of Lansing, organized a milk factory there, taking the name of Michigan Condensed Milk Co. In time he casually asked Wm. McPherson one day, if he knew where a man could be secured to take hold of their business in New York, to look after sales. This talk led to the employment of Birt F. Parsons who closed out his business here and moved to New York, for that purpose. Shortly after this James F. Joy and C. H. Buhl of Detroit, acquired the business from Mr. Turner,

Largely through Mr. Parsons' personal efforts the business grew until the company required more milk than one factory's capacity. Mr. Parsons remembered his old home town and took the matter up here. A meeting was held in the Opera House in 1891 and the required bonus of \$5,000 was raised to secure the factory.

For some time milk was shipped to Lansing. By the time the factory was ready there was milk enough coming in to start work here. It was opened in 1893, with E. P. Gregory as superintendent. He resigned in 1901 and Wm. S. Sanderlands succeeded him to that position, May 8 of that year.

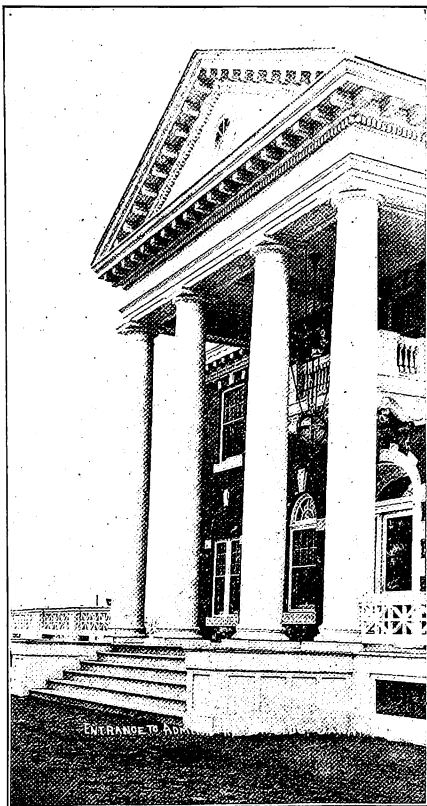
The factory has for years received an average of 90,000 pounds of milk per day. It has averaged paying the farmers \$360,000 per year for milk, and over \$40,000 per year to help. Other factories have paid in checks at panicy times but the Howell factory

has always provided the cash without a single failure. The value to the whole community, by having this stream of money flowing in regularly, winter and summer, is beyond competition

In 1881, W. K. Sexton who then lived on his farm in Marion, bought some Holstein cattle at St. Clairville, N. Y. He was so well pleased with them that when the man from whom he purchased imported from Holland in 1882, Mr. Sexton secured some to come with his. At that time this section was considerably noted for Durham cattle and Mr. Sexton's black and white stock created all kinds of comment when he showed them at the county fair that fall. He had carefully studied his breed however and given them a severe test, and pinned his faith to the Holsteins. For his careful work in those days the industry here has much to be thankful. In that first importation was a noble cow with the characteristic Holland name of Houwtje. Recognizing her value Mr. Sexton moved his operations largely toward her family. He has lived to see them among the country's leaders.

Frank Metz who worked for Mr. Sexton, caught his ardor and enthusiasm, and was the second Holstein man here. Horace Norton soon followed. All of these were in Marion but they laid the foundation for what has become, beyond any question, Howell's greatest and most paving enterprise,

The advent of the milk factory had much to do



with the developement of the Holstein industry. R. C. Reed, now of the firm of Reed & Knowles; Frank Crandall, The McPherson Farms Co., Dr. W. C. Huntington, F. W. Munson, W. W. Crittenden, J. W. Worthington, E. P. Gregory and other Howell farmers are extensively engaged in Holstein breeding. The A. R. O. movement which requires record of production before registry, has found hearty support here, and the fame of Howell cattle, including several farmers in other towns, is as wide as this country. Messrs. Reed and Crandall have been officers of the state and national Holstein breeders associations. Car load lots of thoroughbreds are regularly shipped from this market to breeders everywhere, Howell being the only place where choice specimens of this breed can regularly be purchased in such quantities. The trade in Holstein grades too is very large. So many buyers come from all parts of the country that D. M. Beckwith has made it his regular business for some time past to act as a sort of broker to bring these buyers in contact with the cattle available for sale on farms in this county.

In the matter of records, Howell cattle are right at the front. Houwtje K. Pietertje DeKol. No. 61,543, leads with a record of 99.6 pounds of milk in one day and 675 pounds in seven days. Her butter record in seven days was 18.98 pounds. She is owned by McPherson Farms Co. The 90 pound class has a large number of cows hereabouts.

Going prices paid to farmers for thoroughbred Holsteins run around \$250, with choice animals more than doubling those figures. For grades the farmers are receiving \$60 to \$80.

Year after year, in the state medical society, the question of establishing a state sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, was discussed. Committees were often appointed, only to be turned down by the Legislature. In 1905 the matter was brought on again by a paper in the state medical society, by Dr. Hartz of Detroit. It was decided to make another trial and Dr. Hartz became chairman of the committee to take the matter up at Lansing. Some local physicians became interested and brought the matter to the attention of Senator Rumer and Representative VanKeuren of this district, and posted them as to the need and value of such an institution. When the bill reached the Legislature, they were both among its strongest supporters. When it passed with an appropriation of \$30,000 to establish the institution and maintain it for the coming two years, Dr. W. C. Huntington, to use a modern expression, got busy.

Dr. Huntington's son Harry had recently returned from treatment in a similar institution in the east. He and his father, at once began a search of property in this vicinity for the most available site. They picked the grounds which were afterwards decided upon.

Dr. Huntington then called a meeting at the "eugene house", and the matter was taken up. It was decided to go after the institution and committees were appointed accordingly. E. P. Gregory who was chairman of the meeting, became chairman of the general committee. Everyone pulled together and the institution was secured. The first board, was Dr. Hartz of Detroit; Hon. Geo. W. Teeple of Pinckney; Frank B. Leeland of Detroit; Dr. Lohnson of Grand Rapids; Dr. Gray of Clare and Dr. Copeland of Ann Arbor.

Dr. Kennedy of Detroit was its first superintendent.

The local committee raised the money to present the site to the state, as an inducement to locate here.

Dr. Pierce is now superintendent. The present board is as follows: Dr. Hartz of Detroit; Dr. Johnson of Grand Rapids; Hon. Geo. W. Teeple of Pinckney; Dr. Gray of Clare; Dr. Hinsdale of Ann Arbor, and Dr. F. B. Leeland of Detroit.

In 1898, E. A. Bowman opened a little bazaar store in the Cardwell block. It wasn't a very large institution and while Howell has a welcome for large and small alike, no one thought a great deal about it anyhow. In Mr. Bowman's desk is a little brown envelope labeled "First sale, March 15, 1898." It contains five cents.

While the stock was small, its owner possessed in-

domitable will, courage, courtesy and hustle. These qualities didn't show up on the first invoice, but they went right into the business with the little stock. After awhile, the store moved to a more central location and then to one of the largest stores in town. Then came a balcony, a basement fitted up for additional departments, a commodious store house erected in the rear and an annex in another building. At the start, Mr. Bowman and a boy took care of all the trade and had lots of time. Now, seven clerks are regularly employed, more on Saturdays and in the holiday season, as high as twenty-eight have been required to take care of the trade. The little store has grown to be the leader in its lines. Its a marvelous development.

In the early '80s. Frank H. Bush built Howell's first greenhouse. It stood on the ground now occupied by John Kingquest's house. For two or three years he did a good business, and then having engaged in the news and confectionary business allowed his greenhouse to go down. By the way this young man's confectionary business was in the room now occupied by Kirk's millinery store on State street. His peanut roaster was a new thing in Howell, and gave him a big business, and this in turn gave to the row of two story business places, then lately erected, the name of "Peanut Row", which it has since held.

About twenty years ago, Mrs Geo. B. Lake who

was then living with her father, Dr. Z. H. Marsh, built a small greenhouse adjoining her home. About that time a young man named Samuel D. Chaney arrived in Howell and arranged to work for Mrs. Lake for his board, and go to school. The greenhouse became largely his care. Chaney afterwards became an operator on the Chicago Board of Trade, where he made a handsome fortune. He retired a few years ago and built a splendid home at Joliet, Ill., and has a fine summer home at Chautauqua Lake N. Y.

Soon after Mr. Chaney gave up his job of working in the greenhouse for his board, J. Albert Brown was employed by Mrs. Lake. He worked for her about seven years, and thirteen years ago, purchased the property. Under Mr. Brown's skilful management the business of flower culture has developed to one of the best in this section of the state, calling for several large houses, well equipped with the very latest appliances.

The idea of raising vegetables under glass was new here when Lee Chamberlain took it up with Howell people in 1906. He succeeded in interesting capital with him and organized the firm of Lee Chamberlain & Co. Arrangements were made with the Water Works and Electric Light Board to run waste steam from their works for heating purposes and the green houses were built. In 1907 the old firm was changed to an incorporation under the name

of Howell Greenhouse Co., Mr. Chamberlain remain-
ing in the general management. At this writing two
houses each two by twelve rods in size, have been un-
der cultivation since the company began operations,
and a third is to be erected in the very near future,
The leading products are lettuce, tomatoes and cu-
cubers which find ready market at home and in the
cities, all through the winter.

Another greenhouse was built by Walter Papworth,
in connection with his market garden business, some
years ago. It has laid the foundation for quite an
extensive industry. Every spring, tomatoes and
other plants which are started there, are shipped to
towns all through this part of the state.

When William McPherson first established his
store in Howell, a few drugs were among the stock
as they are in all country stores. Later, when he
formed the partnership with William Riddle and
moved to the corner now occupied by O. J. Parker's
drug store, the drugs became a main stock, gradually
developing, until a few years later, a fully equipped
drug store was to be found there. In time the late
H. P. Browning came here to clerk in this drug
store, and for some years managed it for Mr. Mc-
Pherson and Son.

Later this stock was owned by Henry D. Wilber
who ran it for a good many years, finally moving
to the old Winans block, where crockery, etc, was
added, and where it went out in the first big fire
which swept that block.

Another early drug store was run by E. A. Youngs who gained quite a reputation with his medicines.

Mr. Youngs sold out to W. F. Griffith who ran the store for a short time and sold it to O. J. Parker, twenty-five years ago. Mr. Parker moved to the M. J. McPherson block when it was completed and has been there since, but is soon to move to the Greenaway block.

Another early drug store was Dr. Blanck's. It was located in the Green block, afterwards known as McKeever block. Dr. Blanck sold to A. H. Phinney who moved the stock to the VanKleeck block, where it was sold to Tim P. Stowe and E. K. Johnson. They were together for seven or eight years, when Mr. Johnson, in 1880, bought his partner's interests. When this was done, the stock was in what is now known as Monroe Brothers' block. It was moved from there to the Gregory block in 1909.

Sometime after selling his interests in the firm of Stowe & Johnson, Mr. Stowe started a new drug store, which he ran for some time and then sold to Barron & Wines.

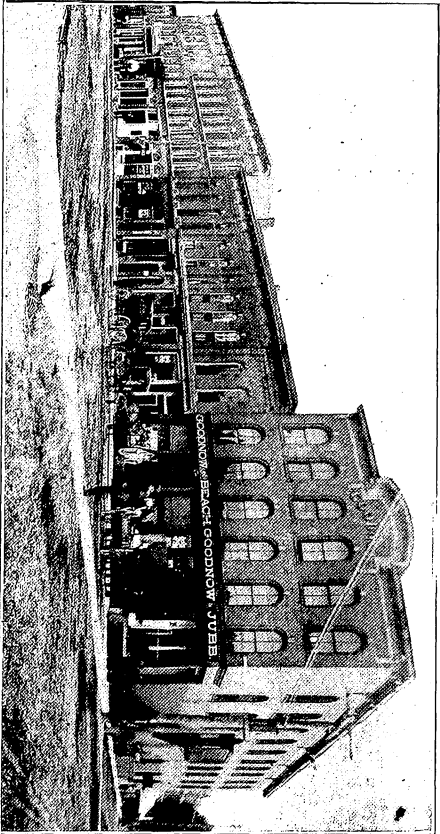
Drs. Spencer & Hutton carried a growing stock of medicines in their offices. When these were united in the formation of their medical partnership, it pretty nearly made a drug store of itself. They were leaders in their line for some years, and were succeeded by Henry P. Spencer, who sold to E. Herendean, who afterwards failed and the stock was largely sold

at auction, the balance being stored for some years, in a barn.

Another very early drug store was that of Frank Wells. He moved from here to Lansing where he was prominent in business circles for several years.

In 1901 W. H. S. Wood was elected Supervisor and he proposed a petition for a vote on the proposition of not to exceed a one mill tax for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a township library, and among the first signers thereof were M. J. McPherson, Wm. VanWinkle and K. S. B. Holt. Meanwhile Mr. Wood also wrote to Andrew Carnegie who offered \$10,000 for a library building if eight and ten percent or \$1000 was promised for annual maintenance. The vote was taken at the April election in 1902, no great effort being made to influence voters, except some quiet arguments and letters in the press by members of the Howell Woman's Club, Mr. Wood having stated that he desired the voters and taxpayers to exercise a careful and consistent choice in supporting or rejecting it, but it carried by a vote of about two to one. The Township Board then appointed suitable committees and the plans of architect E. E. Meyers of Detroit, who was also the architect of the State Capitol at Lansing, and those of Texas, Colorado and Illinois were accepted.

Meanwhile, the sons of William McPherson, viz. Wm. Jr., E. G., M. J. and Alex. secured and pur-



SOUTH SIDE OF GRAND RIVER STREET, HOWELL

chased the entire block on Grand River street formerly occupied by the old foundry and presented it for a site, the central front where the building stands being accepted by the township and the remainder of the block by the village as a park.

It was decided to build the library of field stone or glacial granite, found in fields near here and it has certainly made as fine an appearing library building as there is in the state and being on the best thoroughfare, is generally noted and remarked about by all strangers passing in automobiles, etc

The contract was let to G. Kuehne, he being the only bidder on the entire building and it was commenced in the spring of 1903, but after getting the walls up and roof boards on, the contractor failed and it so remained until Mr. Carnegie was induced by M. J. McPherson, to make a further appropriation of five thousand dollars, by which it was completed and the building was opened for use Thursday, November 19, 1906, with an address by Rev. Dr. J. H. Barkley of Detroit.

The first Board of Township Library Commissioners, elected in 1903, consisted of M. J. McPherson, W. H. S. Wood, Rev. Brooke. Thomas Gordon Jr., George Chapel and George Barnes and since then, R. B. McPherson, A. D. Thompson and Rev. Cooper have acted thereon.

Miss Lucy Chapel was appointed librarian. The books of the Ladies Library Association, were trans

ferred to it. The children of Mrs. William McPherson Jr., presented five hundred dollars worth of new books, the late Solomon Hildebrandt and Dr. W. J. Mills and others gave books and W. H. S. Wood gave about two thousand law and government reports.

When Miss Chapel resigned February 14, 1910, Mrs. Myrtle Wilkinson was appointed to the position.

The library is opened every weekday from two to five p. m. and on Monday, Wednesday and Saturday evenings from seven to nine p. m.. It now has about 6,000 volumes, and is much used and appreciated by the public, and especially the pupils in the public schools. It belongs to the entire township of Howell, is a free circulating library, books being allowed to be kept two weeks, except reference books.

A law was passed in 1905, drawn by W. H. S. Wood and introduced by Senator George Barnes, allowing adjoining towns to join with Howell in its support and use, but it has not as yet been availed of by them.

In January, 1907, Prof. D. F. Clark established the Howell Business College, affiliated with the Bliss Business College of Flint. Prof. F. M. Dye was placed in charge for the first year. Prof. W. A. Clark became the head of the school the following fall and is still in that position. The college took a high grade for its work, from the start, and has maintained it. Its list of students has been larger each year than the year before.

On May 9th, 1909, A. Riley Crittenden learned that a Detroit factory was looking for a location with more capital. The business looked good and he soon arranged to bring the parties into contact with Howell people. Before noon the next day the matter was practically cinched and on May 20th a contract was signed which resulted in the establishment of the Wickman Wire Works here. The company is incorporated for \$12,000 with H. J. Wickman, Robert S. Layman, Wm. McPherson Jr, R. B. McPherson, M. J. McPherson, H. E. McPherson, O. J. Parker E. C. Shields, Jay C. Walton and Fred P. Schroeder as stockholders. Its first officers were:

President—R. B. McPherson.

Vice President and General Superintendent—H. J. Wickman.

Secretary-Treasurer—H. E. McPherson.

The company manufactures a line of wire specialties with a twisted wire eavetrough holder as a leader. Its first season was highly successful and prospects are bright for a material increase in business.

Wm. H. Wenk developed a genius for mechanics as a small boy, on a farm in Deerfield. He gradually developed a saw mill and cider mill and made quite a line of cider mill machinery. Early in 1908, he outgrew his country facilities and bought a site from A. M. Wells on the bank of Thompson's lake. There he erected a building in the upper portion of which he placed his Deerfield business. In the basement

he equipped a first-class creamery. Capital was interested in this change and the Howell Manufacturing Co. was the result. It was incorporated at \$15,000. The new industry was opened for business Sept. 15, 1909 and seems to be enjoying a prosperous and growing patronage.

City officials of late years have been as follows:

1870—President, Henry H. Mills; clerk, Dennis Shields; assessor, Wm. Curtis; trustees, Albert Riddle, Wm. C. Rumsey, Francis N. Monroe, Calvin Wilcox, Andrew D. Waddell; marshal H. C. Briggs, street commissioner, Solemon T. Lyon; pound master, James Fitzgerald; treasurer, H. C. Briggs.

1871—President Sardias F. Hubbell; clerk, Andrew D. Waddell; assessor, Wm. B. Smith; trustees, Neil O'Hearn, George H. Cooper, Floyd S. Wvloff, Charles G. Jewett, and George Greenaway; marshal, Leonard N. Fishbeck; street commissioner, William E. Huntly; treasurer, Leonard N. Fishbeck.

1872—President, Sardias F. Hubbell; clerk, Andrew D. Waddell; assessor, Calvin Wilcox; trustees, John W. Wright, George L. Sage, Robert C. Hutton, John M. White, John Jones; marshal and treasurer, Henry A. Whipple; street commissioner, Wm. E. Huntly.

1873—President, Niel O'Hearn; clerk, Edward B. Gregory; assessor, Harry J. Haven; trustees, F. N. Monroe, Asa VanKleeck, Wm. Beattie, Sylvester Andrews, Albert Riddle; marshal and treasurer, Hiram Hopper; street commissioner, Wm. C. Rumsey.

1874—President, F. N. Monroe; clerk, Royal H. Rumsey; assessor, Benj. Rubert; trustees, Wm. W. Finton, James A. Preston, William E. Watson, Horace G. W. Fry. George Bush; Mr. Fry never qualified and E. B. Gregory was elected to vacancy; street commissioner, Charles Brigham; marshal and treasurer, Wm. Barnard,

1875—President, Horace Halbert; clerk, E. P. Gregory; assessor, F. J. Hickey; trustees, Wm. B. Jewett, J. M. White. Frederick B. Brown, Roswell Mott, Erastus Watrous; marshal and treasurer, Wm. F. Barnard; street commissioner, C. Brigham.

1876—President, Harry J. Haven; clerk, Rollin H. Person; assessor, Albert Riddle; trustees, Asa VanKleeck, Robert A. Chambers, William L. Knapp, John W. Wright, Neil O'Hearn; marshal and treasurer, Geo. Bush; street commissioner, John Lee.

1877 President, Asa VanKleeck; clerk, Rollin H. Person; assessor, Wm. B. Smith; trustees, R. H. Rumsey, L. N. Fishbeck, Stephen S. Moore, R. A. Chambers, J. W. Wright; marshal and treasurer Arthur F. Field; street commissioner, Thomas J. Winegar; pound master, John Rouston.

1878— President, Neil O'Hearn; Royal H. Rumsey; assessor, William B. Smith; trustees, Wm. H. Gilkes, Leonard N. Fishbeck, Harry J. Haven, Frank Kelly, George H. Warren; street commissioner, Thomas J. Winegar; treasurer, Thomas Clark; health officer, W. L. Wells.

1879—President, John H. Galloway; clerk, R. H. Rumsey; assessor, Benj. H. Rubert; trustee, Asa VanKleeck, Mylo L. Gay, Wm. B. Smith, F. N. Monroe, Leander C. Smith; street commissioner, T. J. Winegar; marshal, Thomas Clark; health officer H. R. Hitchcock.

1880—President, Leander C. Smith; clerk, Royal H. Rumsey; trustees, F. N. Monroe, Theodore B. Knapp, Wm McPherson Jr. Asa VanKleeck, W. W. Kenyon; assessor, Albert Riddle; street commissioner, Charles Brigham; treasurer, Thomas Clark; health officer, R. C. Hatton.

1881— President, Wm. B. Smith; clerk, Charles H. Brown; assessor, Albert Riddle; trustees, Wm. W. Kenyon, Robert A. Chambers, Theodore B. Knapp, John M. Clark for one year, Homer N. Beach, F. N. Monroe, Charles L. Collier, L. N. Fishbeck for two years; street commissioner, Alonzo Teasdale; treasurer, Thomas Clark; health officer, Henry N. Spencer.

1882—President, Harry J. Haven; clerk, Frank O. Burt; assessor, Albert Riddle; trustees for two years, Henry D. Wilber, Edward Greenaway, Lorenzo H. Sullivan, to fill vacancy, Leslie E. Woodruff; street commissioner, A. Teasdale; marshal, Thomas Clark; pound master, John Herbert; health officer, Henry N. Spencer.

1883—President, Wm. W. Kenyon, clerk, Patrick J. Hammel; assessor, H. G. W. Fry; trustees, John

V. Gilbert, John W. Wright, Edwin C. Sweet Theodore B. Knapp; vacancy, Charles A. Wood; street commissioner, A. Teasdale; treasurer, Thomas Clark.

1884—President, George P. Dudley; clerk, George H. Chapel; assessor, Homer N. Beach; trustees, Frank P. Archer, Charles Fritz, Alfred E. Papworth, Lorenzo H. Sullivan, vacancy, Winton B. Brooks; night watch, Thomas Clark.

1885—President, Jay Corson; clerk, George H. Chapel; assessor, George W. Axtell; trustees, Thomas G. Switzer, Edger Noble, Frank J. Holt, Calvin Wilcox; health officer, E. B. Pratt; street commissioner, Charles Brigham.

1886—President, E. G. McPherson; clerk, Will. Force; assessor, Albert Riddle; trustees, F. G. Hickey, William Switz, A. E. Papworth, W. B. Brooks; vacancy, L. J. Wright; health officer, R. W. Coleman; marshal and treasurer, S. B. Rubert; street commissioner, Charles Brigham; lamp lighter, Edgar Carpenter.

1887—President, Edward P. Gregory; clerk, William M. Force; assessor, Newton Kirk; trustees, H. C. Wright, vacancy, George W. Axtell, Charles Fritz, Charles L. Collier, William H. Monroe, vacancy, Fred P. Schroeder; marshal and treasurer, Seth B. Rubert; night watch, Walter S. Papworth; street commissioner, Winton B. Brooks; health officer, John A. Wessinger

1888—President, Dennis Shields; clerk, Bernard L. Walker; assessor, Thomas B. Clark; trustees, Cyrus S. Sweet, Amos Winegar, Wallace W. Barnard, George H. Chapel, marshal and treasurer, Jerome Wilber; lamp lighter, Jarvis Miller; night watch, Thomas B. Clark; health officer, Robert B. Bell, building inspector, L. J. Wright

1889—President, W. P. VanWinkle; clerk, A. Riley Crittenden; assessor, Lewis J. Wright; trustees, Henry C. Wright, Thomas O'Connor, Robert B. Bell, Andrew B. Fishbeck, vacancy, Edward Manne street commissioner, A. S. Cooper; marshal, night watch and treasurer, Thomas B. Clark; health officer, Will C. Spencer; building inspectors, C. L. Collier, L. J. Wright, Charles Johnson.

1890—President, Wm. P. VanWinkle; clerk, Edward J. Drewery; assessor, Lewis J. Wright; trustees, Amos Winegar, Edward Manne, Frank Z. Hubbell, Chas. E. Marston, vacancy John Bickhart; marshal and treasurer, Lyman V. D. Cook; health officer, Robt. B. Bell.

1891—President, Wm. C. Huntington; clerk, Ed-ison Wilber; assessor, Lewis J. Wright; trustees, Thomas J. Winegar, P. D. Skilbeck, Thomas Bar-ron, Daniel Purkey, vacancy, Charles Arnold; street commissioner, A. S. Cooper; marshal and treasurer, L. V. D. Cook; health officer, Dr. R. B. Bell.

1892—Pres. John Wright; clerk, Andrew Fishbeck; assessor, H. N. Beach; treasurer, James Ryan;

trustees, Jerome Sherman, Henry Jones, Sylvester Andrews, John Bickhart; health officer O. N. Moon; night watch, Thomas B. Clark; attorney, W. P. VanWinkle; street commissioner, John Farnsworth; marshal, T. J. Winegar; pound master, John Herbert. Mr. Winegar only served a short time as marshal and resigned. Byron Phipps was elected to vacancy.

1893—President, John W. Wright; clerk Edison J. Wilber; assessor, Homer N. Beach; treasurer, James Ryan; trustees, Fred F. Hubbell, Henry D. Wilber, Edward C. Sweet, R. Bruce McPherson; marshal, Stephen G. Fishbeck; health officer, Alex O'Neil; night watch, T. B. Clark; street commissioner, John Farnsworth.

1894—President, Arthur Garland; clerk, Edison J. Wilber; assessor, George P. Dudley; treasurer, Miller Beurman; trustees, Herbert J. Ackley, A. D. Thompson, Clarence J. Cook, Hugh A. McPherson, vacancy John E. Gilmore; marshal, M. J. Dempsey; night watch, Byron D. Langworthy; water trustees, Thomas Gordon Jr. Miles W. Bullock, W. C. Huntington; water clerk and inspector, Geo. P. Dudley.

1895—President, J. C. Walton; clerk, Henry H. Wines; assessor, Homer N. Beach; treasurer, E. Miller Beurmann; trustees, C. E. Burns, S. M. Armstrong, Geo. W. Axtell, Albert Thompson, Hugh A. McPherson, Frank Frieund; marshal, M. J. Dempsey; street commissioner, John Farnsworth:

health officer A. O'Neil; attorney Luke S. Montague: resigned July 15, Dwight Fitch appointed: night watch, B. D. Langworthy.

1896—President, Robert B. Bell; clerk Henry H. Wines; treasurer, Walter W. Knapp; assessor Amos Winegar; trustees, Andrew B. Fishbeck, Frank Freiund, Hugh A. McPherson; attorney Dennis Shields; night watch, Will R. Knapp; marshal, Henry Pettibone; health officer, Alex. O'Neil; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; street commissioner, John Farnsworth; pound master, John Herbst; scavenger, Abram VanBlaricum.

1897—President, A. D. Thompson; clerk, Ara L. V. D. Cook; assessor, Amos Winegar; treasurer, Walter W. Knapp; trustees, Calvin Wilcox, Daniel Ratz, David L. Young; street commissioner, Jos. Gibouloug; night watch, Edgar Corson; marshal, Jerome Wilber; health officer, Dr. J. E. Browne; attorney, Claude Brayton; fire warden, Fred Hopper, superintendent and clerk of water works, W. P. Govier.

1898—President, Louis E. Howlett; clerk, Bernard L. Walker; treasurer, R. E. Barron; assessor, Walter W. Knapp; trustees, Ernest L. Avery, Fr derick P. Euler, Homer N. Beach; street commissioner, John Daniels; night watch, Henry Pettibone; attorney, W. H. S. Wood; marshal, Eli L. Snyder, health officer, Alex. O'Neil; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; board of assessors, Everett D. Sargent, Julius

Hesse, Fred F. Hubbell; surveyor, Miles W. Bullock; superintendent water works, George S. Durfee.

1899—President, Louis E. Howlett; clerk, Bernard L. Walker; treasurer, Richard E. Barron; assessor, Walter W. Knapp; trustees, Calvin Wilcox, C. Frank Shields, Amos Winegar

1900—President, Louis E. Howlett; clerk, Charles P. Adams, treasurer, John B. Barron; assessor, Walter W. Knapp; trustees, Byron Kells, Electus Hadden, Charles W. Sharp; water clerk, E. J. Wilber; electric light and water commission, Fred P. Schroeder, O. J. Parker, Calvin Wilcox.

1901—President Thomas Gordon Jr.; clerk, Charles P. Adams; treasurer, John B. Barron; assessor, W. H. S. Wood; trustees, John T. Emmett, Charles F. Shields, T. O. Newcomb; attorney, F. J. Shields; surveyor, M. W. Bullock; scavenger, Charles Ackley; pound master, Charles Babcock; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; water clerk, Edson J. Wilber.

1902—President, E. P. Gregory; clerk, James I. VanKeuren; assessor, W. H. S. Wood; treasurer, A. K. Tooley; trustees, Byron Kells, Adolph G. Kuehn, George W. VanVerst; street commissioner, John Farnsworth; surveyor, M. W. Bullock; night watch, Wm. Culver; scavenger, A. VanBlaricum; pound master, Jacob Held; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; Mr. VanKeuren left Howell during his term and L. R. Manning was elected clerk.

1903—President, David D. Harger; clerk, L. R.

Manning; treasurer, Albert K. Tooley; trustees, for two years, Edward A. Garland, Wm. Whitaker, Charles Sharp, for one year Charles Granger; assessor, W. H. S. Wood; attorney, James A. Greene; health officer, R. H. Baird; night watch, Wm. J. Culver; street commissioner, John Fainsworth; marshall, Thomas Clark; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; surveyor, M. W. Bullock; scavenger, Alonzo B. Johnson; pound master, Thomas B. Clark; members board of review, Wm. Whitaker, T. P. Stowe. Mr. Clark's health failed during this year and Freeman Rorabacher was appointed his assistant; building inspector, Robert Chambers, Asa VanKleeck.

1904—President, Amos Winegar; clerk, Luther R. Manning; treasurer, George A. Wimbles; trustees, Henry Jubb, Charles L. Granger, John Henry Helmer, assessor, Timothy P. Stowe; secretary water works and electric light commissioner, D. Hartnell; pound master, Geo. B. Raymour; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; marshall, H. H. Collins; health officer, R. H. Baird; night watch, William Culver; scavenger, Alonzo B. Johnson; attorney, James A. Greene; street commissioner, George H. Dieterle.

1905—President, Electus Hadden; clerk, Luther R. Manning; treasurer, Wilber B. Johnson; trustees Edward A. Garland, Andrew O. Hutchins; assessor, Tim P. Stowe, Alfred Copeland; marshall, Freeman Rorabacher; health officer, R. H. Baird; night watch William Culver; attorney, David D. Harger; street

commissioner, John Farnsworth: pound master, George B. Raymour: fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck: scavenger, Charles Ackley: member electric light and water commission, W. P. Govier, Frank Wright.

1906—President, Chester A. Parshall: clerk, William E. Beach: treasurer, Wilber B. Johnson: trustees, Harry L. Williams, F. Elmer Mills, Emmett J. Whalian, to fill vacancy, Eugene A. Stowe: assessor, E. Miller Beurmann: street commissioner, James Riley: attorney, W. P. VanWinkle: health officer, J. E. Browne: night watch, W. J. Culver: fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck: member electric light and water works commission, Jay C. Walton: members board of review, Asa Van Kleeck, E. P. Gregory,

1907—President, Hugh A. McPherson; clerk, William E. Beach; treasurer, James H. Miner; trustees, Edmund C. Shields, Claude B. Culver, William E. Sunderlands; assessor, E. Miller Beurmann; street commissioner, James Riley; health officer, J. E. Browne; attorney, R. D. Roche; night watch, W. J. Culver; marshall, W. J. Culver; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; members board of review, Homer N. Beach, E. P. Gregory; member electric light and water works commission, E. A. Bowman; secretary commission, L. P. Melendy.

1908—President, Amos Winegar; clerk, William E. Beach; treasurer, James H. Miner; trustees, Walter W. Knapp, George W. Wright, Joseph Frank; assessor, E. Miller Beurmann; marshall,

Freeman Rorabacher; night watch, W J. Culver; health officer J. E. Browne; member electric light and water commission, Calvin Wilcox; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; street commissioner, John Farnsworth; attorney, Richard D. Roche; members board of review, Daniel Ratz, E. P. Gregory; secretary electric light and water commission, L. P. Melendy,

1909—President, Calvin Wilcox; clerk, John Hagman; treasurer, A. J. Brown; trustees, F. J. Fishbeck, George J. Payne, W. J. Larkin; assessor, E. Miller Beurmann; members electric light and water commission, to fill vacancy, A. J. Parker; full term, David Young; members board of review, Daniel Ratz, John Kirk; attorney, Louis Howlett; health officer, E. H. Bailey; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; street commissioner, George Brigham; sewer inspector and surveyor, Robert Long; marshal, Freeman Rorabacher; secretary electric light and water commission, L. P. Melendy.

1910—President, Thomas Gordon Jr; clerk, John A. Hagman; treasurer, A. J. Brown; trustees, E. J. Drewery, Elmer Smith, Joseph Frank; assessor, E. Miller Beurmann; street commissioner, E. E. Howe; marshal, Daniel Ratz; night watch, Wm. J. Culver; member electric light and water commission, E. A. Bowman; fire warden, L. N. Fishbeck; sewer inspector and surveyor, Grant Dunning; secretary electric light and water commission, L. P. Melendy, members board of review, C. A. Parshall, James Miner.

June 28, 1906, A. Riley Crittenden returned to Howell and established a small weekly paper named Livingston Tidings. In a few weeks it was changed to twice a week, and that fall to three times a week. It has been a prosperous publication from the start, as a result of hard work by the publisher and his wife. In November 1910, the Herald having previously gone into the hands of its creditors, it acquired that publication and amalgamated the two plants.

Largely through the influence of Tidings the Howell Commercial club was formed in 1910. Its birth commemorating the visit of Grand Rapids wholesale dealers who were entertained by Howell business men at the Womans club rooms. Its officers were; President, R. B. McPherson; Vice president, E. A. Stowe; secretary L. R. Manning; treasurer, D. L. Young; executive committee L. E. Howlett, E. A. Bowman, O. J. Parker, C. A. Goodnow, F. P. Schroeder. When Mr. Manning moved away A. L. Smith was elected in his place. The club secured the Ewer Wrench and Tool Mfg. Co. for which \$15000 of local stock was raised, the old company holding \$10,000 of stock in the new company here. It has built a building and is just fairly getting under headway.

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