



PRAIRIE FARMER'S DIRECTORY  
OF IROQUOIS COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
1917

Continued from Vol. 6 No. 3

LEE, Delmer (Effie Laughland) Ch Harriett; "Pleasant Hill Farm". Watseka R3 Crescent Sec11 0160a (1911)

LEE, Guy (Florence WILSON) Ch Vernon, Alice; Danforth R1 Danforth Sec17W 190a R. M. POLLOCK Est. (1887)

LEE, Frank Danforth R1 Danforth Sec20R10E 0145a (1899)

LEE, James (Harriett HOEL) Danforth R1 Danforth, Sec17R10E )88a T70a (1893)

LEE, John H. (Fannie JACKSON) Ch Bertha, Grace, Charles, Gertrude, Robert; Watseka R5 Belmont Sec1 T154a A. L. WHITEHALL (1877)

LEE, Warren F. (Hattie ONG) Ch Chan, Mabel, Ethel, Chester Glenn, Walter, Fay; Crescent City R2 Crescent Sec8 T80a Mr. BEAN (1877)

LEEF, Charles (Jennie BRAZIE) Onarga R2 Onarga Sec24W 05a (1867)

LEFAVE, Godfrey (Merriene LILA) St. Anne R3 Papineau Sec7 080a (1915)

LEGGOTT, Ed (Elsie KERSHAW) Ch Mardelle; Clifton R2 Chebanse Sec32 T160a James LEGGOTT (1889)

LEGGOTT, James T. (Susie ELBERTO) Clifton R2 Chebanse Sec30R11E T80a George LEGGOTT (1894)

LEGRIS, Fred (Vitaline GRAGON) Ch Bluebell; Beaverville R1 Martinton Sec12 T80a J. h. GERNON (1844)

LEHMANN, Edward (Christina DUIS) Ch Edna, Clifford, Mildred; Crescent City R2 Crescent Sec28 T120a E. W. LEHMANN (1894)

LEHMAN, William F. (Ann UNLITZSCH) Ch Lidia, Elmer; Crescent City R2 Crescent Sec27 T120a E. W. LEHMANN (1894)

LEIDING, Fred (Fredericka CLAPPE) Ch Fred, Walter, Alberta, Will, Leonard, Edwin; Crescent City R2 Onarga Sec36 0160a (1885)

LEISCE, Henry (Lena SIEGFRIED) Gilman R3 Douglas Sec29R10E T160a P.B. and C. C. Miles (1904)

LEITZ, Fred (Minnie UNTZSCH) Ch Edward, Alfred; Milford R2 Milford  
Sec7 012a (1892)

LEMENAGER, Mrs. Emma L. (Emma BERNARDO) Ch Lillian, Allen, Earl,  
Charlie, Evelyn; "Pine Row Farm" Ashkum R1 Ashkum Sec30R13W 0140a  
(1895)

LEMENAGER, Eugene A. (Babiane BARON) Ch Lawrence; "Pine Tree Farm"  
Ashkum R1 Ashkum Sec30 R13W T12Qa Jules LEMENAGER (1889)

LEMENAGER, F.F. (Mamie MENIGOZ) Ch Irma; Ashkum R1 Ashkum Sec20R13W  
T80a M.J. VILLENEAU (1892)

LEMENAGER, John Sr. (Esther BACTUE) Ch Ferdinand, John, Alice; Ashkum  
R1 Ashkum Sec30R13W 0176a (1865)

LEMENAGER, Naurice E. (Eva SAVOIE) Ashkum R1 Ashkum Sec23 044 T200a  
A. N. LEMENAGER (1893)

LEMMING, J. J. (Hazel HOLLISTER) CH Roy, Martha; Loda R2 Loda Sec24  
Farm Hand Ross HOLLISTER (1913)

LEMNA, August (Philomene DIONNE) Ch Edna, Claud, Zenis, Gladys, Zella;  
Donovan R1 Beaver Sec28-29-31 T400a M. G. POTTER (1892)

LEMON, James E. (Freida WAGNER) Watseka R3 Belmont Sec7 T185a Mrs. John  
LEMON (1892)

LENNIEX, John (Adaline St. PETER) Ch Julia, Henry, Georgia; Watseka R4  
Middleport Sec19 0120a (1857)

LENZ, George H. Jr. (Margaret DEIKEN) Ch George; Gilman R3 Danforth  
Sec21 R14W T160a Henry LENZ (1888)

LEONARD, Jrs. Ernest Ch Vital, Jules, Charles, Olive, Earnest, Rosalie  
Arthur; "Maple Grove Farm" Crescent City R2 Crescent Sec17 0160a (1885)

LEONARD, J. A. (Lillian LENOUE) Ashkum R1 Ashkum Sec36R14W Farm hand  
Medore LENOUE (1889)

LEONARD, Vital (Ann WAUTHIER) Ch Elise, Raymond; Ashkum R3 Ashkum  
Sec23R14W T170a Louise LEMENAGER (1886)

LEPAGE, Rudolph A. (Maude CHANNEL) Watseka R1 Belmont Sec23 T240a E. S  
Martin (1887)

LEQUIRE, Charles (Jane SUNHUHSH) Onarga R1 Ash Grove Sec2 R14W 0120a  
(1908)

LESAGE, Dave (Julia ROVER) CH Frank; Alfred, Philip, Elmer, George,  
Francis, Nellie, Louise; Martinton Sec22 T40a Pete BOUDRO (1880)

LESAGE, Harry C. (Laura NALLY) Ambia, Ind. R2 Prairie Green Sec19  
T120a Michael FLURHER (1895)

LESAGE, John E. (Annie NICHOLS) Ch John, Thomas, Harry; "Walnut Leaf  
Farm" Crescent City R1 Iroquois Sec 29 0185a (1861)

LESCH, George H. Jr. (Hattie MILLER) Papineau Papineau Sec28 T100a  
George LESCH Sr. (1887)

LESCO, Jules (Emily BARKER) Ch William, Nellie, Minnie, Tillie,  
Lennie, Carrie; Martinton R1 Martinton Sec8 T80a Charles BARNIER (1863)

LEATHERMAN, Charles I. (Grace GOCKENO) Crescent City R2 Crescent,  
Sec16 T120a. E. HOOPER (1889)

LEVEQUE, William (Rosetta HOFFMAN) Ch Charley, Lena, Oscar, Clarence,  
Florence; Eartinton R1 Martinton Sec9 042a T40a Mrs. Mary Wombe  
(1878)

LEVIE, Charles (Addie REECE) Ch Bennie, Flank, Edna, Ada; Gilman  
R3 Douglas Sec26R14W 0260a (1865)

LEVIE, Frank "Prosperity Hollow Farm" Gilman R3 Douglas Sec26 R14W  
080a (1861)

LEWIS, James M. (Ida B. MINIER) Ch Hazel, Richard, Harry, Dorothy,  
Florence; Sheldon R3 Sheldon Sec19 T156a Perry MINIER (1902)

LEYDENS, Matthew (Sarah PARZEE) Ch Tena, Ruth; Danforth R1 Danforth  
Sec17 R1OE T240a KOHL Est. (1904)

LIBERT, Gaspard (Lea BOUTIN) Ch Lucien, Eva, Henry, Josephine, Lucy;  
Ashkum R3 Ashkum Sec15R14W 080a (1876)

LIGHT, James W. Sheldon R2 Concord Sec35 T120a John MAYOTTE (1900)

LINDAHL, John (Mary WINSLOW) Ch Viola, Charles, Annie, Dorothy; Donovan  
R1 Beaver Sec2 T80a Alf. WINSLOW (1888)

LINDGREN, Fred W. (Minnie E. Swanson) Ch Wilma, Fred Jr.; Donovan R2  
Beaver Sec25-30 T160a George W. LINDGREN and A. ANDERSON (1882)

LINDGREN, George W. Ch Edna, Roy, Irvin; Donovan R2 Beaver Sec28  
T93a Mrs. E. Donovan (1874)

LINDGREN, Isaac Ch Peter, Carl, Emma, Ellen, Esther, Harry; Clifton  
R2 Chebanse Sec34W T256a N. R. MARSHALL (1880)

LINDGREN, J. H. (Mary BARNLUND) Ch Lloyd, Harold, Jewell; Donovan  
R2 Beaver Sec 25 0160a (1864)

LINDSAY, E. J. (Olive ?L?DLG) Ch Virginia, Lloyd, Lester; Onarga R2  
Onarga Sec25 T110A Mrs. Fannie C. LINDSAY (1874)

LINDSEY, I. M. (Carrie CAPEN) Ch Anita; "The Oaks Farm" Onarga A2 Onarga  
Sec25 T160a Mrs. B. F. LINDSAY (1867)

LINDSMANN, R. D. (Bessie M. CALKINS) Ch Dora Lions; "Barred Rock Farm"  
Martinton R1 Martinton Sec6 T120a Peter H. LANDSMANN (1884)

LINN, Albert (Cora FRED) Ch Milo, Loretta, Dolores; Donovan R2 Beaver  
Sec26 080a T40a Alfred ANDERSON (1872)

LITTELL, W. D. (Anna BAKER) CH Cecel, Floyd, Claude; Milford R4 Milford  
Sec5 T349a J. W. GREGORY (1877)

LITTLE, George A. (Bell SULLIVAN) Ch Walter, Helen; Watseka R3 Belmont  
Sec20 T70a Emma REX (1887)

LOBER, Peter (Marie CERCHER) Ch Samuel, Nettie, Marie, Katie, John,  
Alpha, Eddie, Clara; Cissna Park R3 Pigeon Grove Sec14 T320a Nettie  
MORRIS

LOCKHART, A. G. (Lela BOTTORFF) Ch Nannie, June; Wellington R2 Prairie  
Green Seclq T260a J. N. LOCKHART (1889)

LOCKHART, Ernest R. (Iva DECKER) Ch Charles; Wellington R2 Lovejoy  
Sec13 T200a William CONEY (1892)

LOCKHART, George W. (Alta MATKIN) Wellington R1 Prairie Green Sec19 0120a  
T80a Lillie and Mildred LOCKHART (1873)

LOCKHART, Joseph W. (Vera DOWNEY) Ch Josephine; Wellington R1 Prairie  
Green Sec18 T120a W.H. LOCKHART (1893)

LOCKHART, James N. Jr. Wellington R1 Lovejoy Sec24 T314a J. N. LOCK-  
HART Sr. and S. M. LOCKHART (1894)

LOCKHART, J. H. (Lulu HATE) Hoopeston R4 Fountain Creek Sec27 T300a  
Lida LEEMON (1916)

LOCKHART, Mrs. Sal Ch Mildred; Wellington Lovejoy 080a Sec12 T240a  
Samuel Miller (1871)

LOCKHART, William H. (Bertha STOLP) Ch Ernest, Joseph, Lillie, Bernice  
Harold, Howard, Jennie, Margine, John; Wellington R1 Prairie Green  
Sec17 0260a (1879)

LOCKWOOD, Dr. L. O. (Susan EDMONDS) Ch Ruth, Susie Birline; LaHogue  
Douglas Sec5R10E 0380a (1882)

LONG, Cory A. (Sarah M. John) Ch Arthur; Milford R4 Belmont Sec31  
0225a (1897)

LONG, C. .: (Nancy Kirk) Ch Viola, Marie, Roy; Milford R6 Milford Sec33  
T200a A. J. HALL (1881)

LONG, Mrs. Eva L. Ch Daniel; Watseka R2 Middleport Sec21 0220a

LONG, George F. "Valley View Farm" Watseka R6 Iroquois Sec24 078a  
(1867)

LONG, Thomas L. (Laura GAUNT) Ch John. Ruth, Glenn, Gladys, Ethel.  
Annie; "The Cedars" Watseka R6 Iroquois Sec23 0140a (1864)

LONGFELLOW, Charles W. Wellington R2 Lovejoy Sec1 Farm Hand W. U.  
GALLOWAY (1914)

LONGFELLOW, Elmer C. Wellington Lovejoy Sec10 Farm Hand William EVANS  
(1908)

LOTTINVILLE, Albert (Lea Sprimont) Ch Laverne, Wilford, Orville,  
Lawrence; St. Anne R3 Papineau Sec21 T160a Edward LOTTINVILLE (1884)

LOTTINVILLE, L. H. (Ida BARON) Ch Maurine, Pauline, Lenord; "Mid-  
way Farm" St. Anne R2 Papineau Sec21 T133a Frank DARIS (1884)

LOTTINVILLE, William (Bertha DAVIS) Ch Albert; St. Anne R2 Papineau  
Sec16 T120a M. DUCHARME (1915)

LOTTMAN, C. (Jennie HENRICKS) Ch Ina; Danforth R1 Ashkum Sec31 R14W  
T80a (1887)

LOUNE, Mike (Arcelia GARVIS) Martinton R1 Martinton Sec26W 080a  
(1913)

LOVELASS, George Ch Minnie, William, Bessie, John, Newton; "Liscum  
Farm" Watseka R6 Iroquois Sec3 0140a (1861)

LOVELASS, John E. (Annie ECKERSLEY) Ch John. Dorothy, Harry, Ruth;  
"Green Hill Stock Farm" Watseka R6 Iroquois Sec10 0180a (1870)

LOVELASS, Newton R. "Orchard Hill Farm" Watseka R6 Iroquois Sec2 0200a  
(1876)

LOWE, L. W. (Emma GRACE) Ch Edna, Hazel, Veva, Leonard; St. Anne R2  
Papineau Sec14 0463a (1862)

LUBBEN, John M. (Mary KRAFT) Ch Agnes, Elsie, Will, Roy; Danforth R1  
Danforth Sec19R10E T227a H. R. Danforth Est. (1884)

LUBBEN, William (Lena WESSELS) Ch Emma; Crescent City R2 Crescent  
Sec27 0160a (1892)

LUBBEN, William (Kate COLLINS) Ch Harry; Gilman R1 Douglas Sec35 R14W  
T1a C. LEVIE (1889)

LUCHT, Harm. F. (Kate FARDNAN) Ch Lena, Harm, Hannah, Lily, Alvin;  
Milford R4 Milford Sec6 080a (1877)

LUCHT, Jonah (Anna CASPER) Ch Peterka, Garrett, Tad, Anna, Frank, Andres, Emma, Harm, Jacob, Hilke; Mildrd R4 Milford Sec6 0120a (1874)

LUCHT, Peter F. (Etta REMMERS) Ch Lena, Anna, William, Edward, Otto, August, Ida; Crescent City R1 Iroquois Sec29 0200a (1882)

LUCHT, W. Harm (Anna FRANZENO) Ch Tena; Cissna Park R2 Ash Grove Sec16 R13W T120a A. FRANZEN and George TAMEN (1892)

LUCIER, Phil (Denis LANEY) Ch Willard; Ambia, Ind. R10 Stockland Sec31 T200a Ed. Langellier (1875)

LUDKE, A. C. (Ida REUBENSAM) Ch Esther, Irene; Chebanse R1 Chebanse Sec23 W 0130a (1910)

LUDKE, Henry L. (Dorothy GIERIZ) Ch Florence, Loraine; "Sunnyside Stock Farm" Chebanse R1 Chebanse Sec20E 0160a (1889)

LUEBCHOW, J. H. (Sophia WOLF) Ch Wilbur, Elia, Grant, Elmer, Edgard, Edna, Martha; Buckley R1 Artesia Sec9E 0160a (1872)

LUECKE, Aug. (Matilda MEYER) Ch Clara, Emelia, Magdalene, Erena, Leona August, Albert, Edwin, Edgar; Cissna Park R1 Ash Grove Sec4R13W 0320a (1872)

LUECKE, Arthur F. (Bertha HARTMAN) Ch Herbert, Erna; Cissna Park R1 Ash Grove Sec17R13W T160a Fred H. LUECKE (1888)

LUECKE, Walter (Mary NATSCHKE) Ch Mildred, Leo; Cissna Park R2 Ash Grove Sec21R13W T120a Fred LUECKE (1890)

LUHMAN, Fred (Matilda TESKE) CH Dora, Martha, John, Carl; Cissna Park R2 Ash Grove Sec13R14W 0180a (1890)

LUHRSEN, August (Arwina WOBERDENE) Ch Lydia, Matilda, Amanda, Arnold; Buckley R2 Artesia Sec26 0175a (1875)

LUHRSEN, G. F. (Alma MARR) Ch Erwin, Clarence, Elda, Gilbert; Buckley R1 Artesia Sec24 T160a Fred LUHRSEN (1882)

LUKOW, William F. Chebanse R3 Chebanse Sec15W T160a John Lukow (1888)

LUND, Frode (Emma HANSON) Gilman R2 Douglas Sec34R10E T152a, W. T. Moore (1906)

LUNDBERG, A. E. (Jessie HENKE) Ch Maxine; Milford R4 Milford Sec2 T260a Martin HANKE (1905)

LUNDBERG, C. E. (Matilda NELSON) Ch Alvin, Arthur; Wellington R1 Prairie Green Sec7 T240a Dr. Richardson and Burton Bros. (1907)

## MOMENCE OF THE OLD FRONTIER

Continued from Vol. 6 No. 4

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### V.

Austin Dexter is a marsh inhabitant who has spent eighty-six years there. He was born at Rensselaer, Indiana, in 1839, and shortly after his people moved into the lake country and he has been there ever since. He is what is known in the expressive phraseology of the lake country as a "Swamp-Rat." Life, in the main, has been uneventful save that it is rich in the garnered experiences of the little realm in which he has so long lived and moved and been a part. In his little hut back among the oaks of a sand-ridge, not far from the famous "Shafer Ridge," we found him and talked with him. Here he lives during the summer, pretty much by himself, and, in the winter he goes down to Kentland a pensioner on the bounty of Newton county. His recollection of the marsh goes back into the early forties. The Pottawattomi were there in that day and, with their primitive weapons, were the principal hunters for a time. His older brother spent much time with them and became quite expert in speaking and understanding the Pottawattomi tongue. In that day, besides the aquatic life that filled the marsh, there were countless deer and wolves that ranged the adjacent prairie and oakscrub of the sand-ridges. He recalls that during the fifties and the sixties hunters made a business of hunting deer for the market. He has beheld wagon loads of deer carcasses piled high and tied with ropes, ready for transport to market at Rensselaer or Morocco, Indiana, or across the line into Illinois to Momence.

There is a tradition associated with the year he was born, 1839, of which he likes to tell. The winter was very severe and many deer took refuge on Big Bogus Island. During the protracted season of cold the waters of the lake were frozen over and then the citizens of the region inaugurated a big drive. Nearly everybody in the neighborhood participated in the affair, men, boys and a woman or two, more hardy and venturesome than the rest, joined in the sport. This wilderness posse was armed with rifles, pitchforks, corn-knives--anything that might serve as a weapon. The grass of the island was fired and the deer, driven before the wall of fire, emerged in numbers upon the glare ice of the lake. Then the slaughter ensued for the deer, unable to stand on the slippery surface of the lake, sprawled in every direction in their made efforts to escape and became easy victims. It is said that the bag of game in that drive amounted to seventy head of deer, a fox or two and six or seven wolves. It was a big event in the lake's history.

Naturally, there are memories etched on the very soul of this ancient swamp recluse of days when the wild life of the upper air concentrated here. Again, a man would have profited if he had known something of the prodigal abundance of these wilderness days, for Austin



Dexter, though friendly and willing, was disposed to listen rather than talk, and this reticence was due in a large measure to the fact that tales of the Lake's early days now seem extravagant, overdrawn, improbable. By degrees, however, he talked--talked in the halting monosyllable of the marshman--of nights in the early spring when the feathered hosts of the air came tumbling in. Many and many is the night he says, that he has lain awake in his shack, unable to sleep from the incessant "cac, cac, cac," of the redheads and mallards mingled with the wild, strident "honk" of geese, belated travelers of the night who sought a resting spot in this wilderness hostelry.

As these hosts settled down they disturbed still other hosts so that the night was a perfect bedlam of distracting cries, so much so that sleep was entirely out of the question. There were times when the swamp's feathered denizens, from some unknown source and in some unaccountable way, were warned of some untoward thing and rose en masse. It was a sight awe-inspiring, spectacular, sublime, and the noise of untold thousands of wings beating the air in unison as they arose from the water reverberated in the timberfringed confines of the lake like heavy thunder. Such old-time hunters of the swamps as Victor Brassard, Wm. A. Hunter and Tom Magruder, say that these sudden, unexplainable upheavals of game taking wing at the same instance, registered on the sensibilities like the reverberations of a mild explosion. A fellow's nerves would fairly tingle for a time as from the effects of a mighty electric shock.

As he spoke of these happenings of the past his eye ranged slowly the vast expanse of country to the south where, traced in the swamp bottoms, were staring highways of white, farms fenced in and fields of corn white from the early autumn frosts, where formerly the boats of the hunters plied. To the southeast of "Big Bogus" laid the deep sink of old Beaver Lake. His eye rested here while he pointed out the huge dredge-ditch, its precipitous sides covered for the most part with scrub-oak, sumach and briars, through which shone dully, patches of dead, gray quicksand. It was then the tragedy of the swamp stood revealed. Through this ditch the heart's blood of old Beaver Lake had drained to the last drop. "They murdered this land while they were at it," said "Justin Dexter sadly, "and made a good job of it!" Its primitive voices are stilled, unless we except the lugubrious voice of the crow and the chattering of the black-bird hosts. Man has deliberately sacrificed the plenty that here fell regularly from the hand of the Almighty and, in return, drew a burden of taxes.

#### FAMOUS BOGUS ISLAND

Beaver Lake and Bogus Island are but memories in this day. It is difficult for the casual visitor to realize that this was a swamp region thousands of acres in extent, whose deep retreats were frequented by counterfeiters, horse thieves, murderers and criminals of lesser degree. So changed is the land that only the campaigner of its old days may know with something of certainty "just where he is at," in this lifeless wide open land of today.

The term lifeless is meant only in a relative sense, as indicating the entire absence of the hosts of wild fowl that once made this wilderness retreat vocal with their cries as they passed in and out. The chatter of the blackbird hosts is but the feeble echo of wilderness life of the long ago. The south-west winds are empty today save where they pick up the dry sands of the old lake bed and weave them in spirals and sift them in soft, gray diaphanous clouds until, in the distance, they seem like spirit-flights of the ancient hosts of the wild, haunting this spot of many memories.

Within forty years section lines have been run, fences built and a perfect checkerboard of stone roads built in the very heart of this swamp region. Its famous secret places are secret no longer, but have been opened to the public in the most ruthless and unfeeling manner and then forgotten, apparently, save by the "swamp-rat," to whom the whole thing is a nightmare--nay, more--a tragedy. "Little Bogus" and "Big Bogus" Islands, famous as the rendezvous of the early-day banditti, loom upon the landscape amid quiet pastoral scenes that afford little or no background for the fierce tales of the border credited to them. The island's most formidable protecting barrier today is the unromantic but practical "barbed-wire" fence.

This island, which is several acres in extent and wooded, was occupied as early as 1836 by counterfeitters, who made quantities of spurious coin which they circulated on the outside by means of confederates and helpers. The Illinois country was alive with horse thieves and counterfeitters. They were even more numerous than the "hold-up" men of today. There is a tradition that three counterfeitters were arrested on Little Bogus in 1837. They were taken before Justice Wesley Spitler, tried and bound over to the circuit court. They forfeited their bonds and the case never came to trial.

A horse stolen from the neighborhood of Milford, Illinois in 1857 was followed by a posse of twelve or fifteen men to the neighborhood of Bogus Island. The thief, hard pressed, left the horse in the timber and made an unsuccessful attempt to escape. He was discovered crossing the big ditch a little way north of the bridge that crosses the ditch near the Jennie M. Conrad home, and, as he emerged on the other side, the bullets of the pursuing party dropped him in his tracks. Apparently the formality of an inquest was dispensed with. He was a known horse thief, and that was enough. They did drag the body to the top of a slightly sand-hill and buried it there. This eminence is known today as "Horse Thief Hill." About this time, too, "Old Shafer," a swamp character with a most sinister record, variously known as "Mike" or "William," was arrested. He was afterwards tried for harboring thieves and stolen property, and was sentenced to three years in the penitentiary.

Early day citizens of Momence were obliged to wage constant and unrelenting warfare on these undesirables, and to that end the services of Col. Phil Worcester, "Uncle Sid" Vail and Walter B. Hess were enlisted on behalf of the community during a period of years and with something of success. In 1839, at a point on "Big Bogus" Island, on its southeastern side where the sandy promontory rises from the bed of the old lake, a point still distinguished by a huge oak tree, there

Col. Worcester and his party surprised a band of five counterfeiters and made them captives. Tradition, which is vague and shadowy, says that the Worcester party consisted of himself, Sid Vail and "Uncle Billy" Nichols, with James Graham for a guide. They came across in a boat from Hunter's Point, to the south-west of the island, in the darkness of the night, guided only by a beacon light which shone from high up in the oak tree. The very audacity of the scheme made it successful. The counterfeiters were sure they were welcoming some of their own party instead of officers of the law.

Walter B. Hess, almost from the first day he became a resident of the border settlement of Momence, identified himself prominently with this movement to preserve law and order. He had a most formidable antagonist in the wily Shafer whom he at last landed back of the bars for a three-year term. But Shafer had a long memory, he was cunning and revengeful, and in the end Mr. Hess lost many and many a good horse and, apparently, was helpless to avert it. Then, there were the brothers, Shep and Wright Latin who had the run of the town and were concerned in many a shady transaction. Mr. Hess never charged Shep Latin with actual stealing, but his clever brain hatched many a scheme which worked out to the great detriment of people of the community with good, likely horses. Shep Latin was really a likable fellow; not vindictive like "Old Shafer." Mr. Hess says that Wright Latin one day went by his house with five horses, which afterwards proved to have been stolen. A day or so later several men came by hunting for them and Mr. Hess gave the fellows such directions as he was able. A day or so later the men returned bringing four horses with them. They said they could not find the fifth horse but found a man in charge of the four. They added significantly that his horse stealing days were over. The description they gave of the man tallied exactly with that of Wright Latin, and he was never heard from later. Many years later, while some men were digging a ditch near Blue Grass, in Indiana, they were very much frightened on exhuming a skeleton. It was, in all probability, the remains of Wright Latin.

The story is told how one day, while Shep Latin was intoxicated, he said to Mr. Hess:

"Hess you're a fool to work as you do. I can put you in the way of making an easier living--just look at this." Whereupon he pulled out of several pockets, handfuls of bills, with the remark: "My clothes are just lined with money."

Mr. Hess refused his confidences on this and other occasions. Summing up his life work in the matter of searching out criminals, however, he was quite positive that, if he were a young man again going into a border country he would not take the active part he did in trying to break up lawlessness. Once he pursued a horse thief for three weeks and in the chase ruined a better horse than the one that had been stolen.

"Little Bogus," which was the favorite haunt of counterfeiters and thieves, was reached from the west and northwest by lonely trails, obscure and winding. It was surrounded on all sides by deep water

which made surprise attack by officers of the law out of the question. By many of the marsh residents it was suspected that there was an easier way into it than by swimming one's horse through the deep waters surrounding it, and, at the time the waters of Beaver Lake were drained, there was brought to light for the first time a peculiar configuration of the lake bottom. From the island's highest point today the observer beholds, stretching away to the north-west, the ziz-zag lines of a narrow "hog-back" of sand which, lying close to the surface of the lake yet obscured by the water, afforded easy means of ingress and egress to men on horseback familiar with the peculiar lay of the land. From the point where the "hog-back" stopped abruptly, there was an interval of deep water between it and the adjacent sand-ridge to the west of some three or four hundred feet. Evidences of an early day engineering feat were unearthed at this point years ago at the time when one of the lateral ditches was dredged through. The dredge discovered with its steel nose a roadway constructed of logs six to eight inches in diameter, placed side by side corduroy fashion. This submerged corduroy roadway was laid in a shallow spot in the lagoon, and reached from the sand-ridge on the west as far as the "hog-back," several hundred feet away to the south-east. Long after the waters of the lake had been drained away, this connecting bit of road, deeply embedded in the swamp muck, was clearly visible. One may behold it all today clearly revealed in the sunshine, the winding highway of the early-day banditti and the clip to the sand-ridge where the corduroy road was laid. It is an innocent looking bit of sandy surface today even though it once formed an important link for those who sought the island stronghold.

"Bogus Island" in its primitive days, was as snug and secure a place as was ever hit upon by the fugitive from justice, or he whose questionable practices thrive best in secret. Covered by a thick growth of oak and brush, its shores fringed about by a dense growth of cat-tails and wild rice, surrounded by deep water, uncharted save for the secret submerged trail to the north-west, what more secure haven could have been desired? Midway of the island, at the head of a small ravine which dips sharply to the east, is today a hole in the ground which popular tradition fixes as the spot where the counterfeiters had their cabin of logs and carried on their operations. The sandy area about this spot has yielded, in the course of the years, many mementoes in the way of spurious coins and counterfeiter's paraphernalia. Here, and at "Big Bogus," three miles to the south-east, as the crow flies, was the rallying point for these underworld characters of border days who, for years continued to be a thorn in the side of the border settlement at Mومence. They were clever men, desperate men, who, in the pinch, held human life cheaply, so that in the category of crimes directly chargeable to them, there sometimes occurred the charge of murder. There are tales still told which lack much of detail and color, and legends vague and various touching upon the lives and doings of the banditti of the swamps, bandied about among the older folk of the region. But, for the most, part time has wiped the memory clean of all definite recollection of these stirring events, with the possible exception of the chief bandit himself--"Old Shafer," who forms the subject of a special story to follow.

Dr. John F. Shronts, the well known pioneer doctor of Momence, as a young man just out of college, sought a location for the practice of his profession near to the cross-roads where stands the hamlet of Lake Village, Indiana. Here, in the heart of the Beaver Lake country, he occupied a primitive log cabin and hung out his shingle as M.D. as early as 1868 or 1869. Here, for years, he practiced, later removing to Momence, Illinois. A queer place, you may think, for a young doctor to light upon, a place without prospect or future, whose inhabitants in the main, were of the criminal stripe and desperate. But the facts are these men were just as susceptible to chills and fever and "swamp ague" as the "squatter" trapper and woodsman, of whom, to use the vernacular of the marsh of that day, "thar wuz a considerable sprinkling." There was a broken arm and broken leg, now and then, to be adjusted and at such times when the boys of questionable character and calling celebrated a successful "haul" on the outside by raising high-jinks in their island stronghold for days at a time--when liquor flowed freely and enthusiasm ran high--not infrequently the lone doctor was sought by them to treat a gun-shot wound or repair a damage caused by fists. Boys will be boys, and the best of friends fall out now and then.

Dr. Shronts used to recall that, on his first visit to the secret places of the Island banditti, he was obliged to submit to being blind folded on going in and coming out of the place. In the course of the years, however, this precaution was dispensed with. For years he knew of the secret "hog-back highway" but was unable to locate it by his own knowledge unaided. But the Doctor concerned himself only in his profession and was careful not to show too great an interest in the past life and doings of his patients. Withal, he was discreet, cautious, careful not to let drop the least hint of gossip or criticism relating to the affairs of this underworld clientele so that in the end he held their confidence as no other man of the lake region ever did. Long after he had removed to Momence, Dr. Shronts was called by the swamp folk generally, in time of need, and by members of the island banditti particularly whenever the emergency arose. By day and by night he, traveled the precarious footing of "Lyon's Lane," to still more precarious and uncertain trails which wound about through thicket and scrub and miniature sand-dunes, which led, finally to the humble cabin of the trapper and hunter or the more isolated abodes of the "Bogus Island" bandits. It was a faithful service he rendered these inhabitants of the Lake region during all the days he lived--summer or winter in fair weather and foul, day or night.

The incident is recalled of one occasion when Dr. Shronts was out of town, a messenger from Bogus Island sought him on behalf of one of their number who had been kicked by a horse. In the absence of Dr. Shronts his colleague, Dr. H. M. Keyser, was appealed to. The Doctor was reluctant at first to undertake the trip for the reputation of the prospective patient, a habitue of "Little Bogus" was not altogether reassuring. In his professional experience he had had but little to do with them. The messenger offered him a double fee, but the Doctor soon made it clear that his unwillingness, in this case, was so much a matter of the fee as it was a matter of safety for himself and his horse. "Supposing," said the Doctor, "that someone of your number

fancied my horse and helped himself to it? What a predicament I would be in! What assurance have I that this will not happen?" The messenger smiled grimly and replied, "When men of our stripe give a promise they live up to it. Should your horse be stolen, I promise that you will be supplied with a better one! I will take you in and bring you back, and pay you well besides." And, thus assured, Dr. Keyser made the trip to Bogus Island. And these men of shady reputation and desperate character treated him royally.

The passing of Dr. John F. Shronts in many respects was marked like the closing of an epoch--like the last chapter in a tale of stirring events of red blood days brought to a point where the frontier "faded out" and present day civilization began. What wealth of stirring reminiscence and thrilling incident of the old, lawless days of the lake country passed beyond mortal ken with the passing of the old Doctor, we can only surmise. We do know that it was considerable and that its loss to the generation of today is irreparable.

#### CEMETERY PROJECT

As a Bicentennial project, the Kankakee Valley Genealogical Society and the Kankakee County Farm Bureau Women's Committee are indexing all of the cemeteries in the County.

Time, weather, vandalism and progress have destroyed many of the monuments. We find in some areas that monuments have been buried and the ground tilled, built over or taken away.

Although we had expected this project would take a long time, even with the cooperation of many persons, it is taking many more days of work than anticipated. Many inscriptions are so faint, they can only be deciphered by making careful rubbings, or by fitting broken pieces together. In one cemetery, a large lilac bush contained six monuments, pushed out of shape and broken by the growth of the bush.

Besides preserving this information for historical and sentimental reasons, this will be a very helpful tool to persons working with genealogy and family history. A good immediate result of our doing this indexing is that now a number of these old cemeteries are being given special care by removing brush, straightening up the monuments, making new maps and bringing their records up to date. Many have no association and had no records but now someone interested will continue by adding to these we have made.

Since all information recorded must be correct, this involves many days of field work, with trips back to check on all dates and data, and also to gather history of the cemetery and authentic information about graves that are unmarked. Sometimes this means checking records and talking with many persons.

After all information is collected, index cards must be made; then each cemetery will be typed alphabetically. When this is done the Farm Bureau Women's Committee will have completed their part of this project, but the Genealogical Society will print a booklet, copies will be in the local library, the State Genealogical Society, etc. The County Bicentennial Committee plans to have books of history on each township gathered and printed for distribution by July 4, 1976-- we hope this booklet will also be ready by then.

All of the field notes and information will be kept so that it can be reused for reference, if needed. The research at each cemetery is done systematically by rows, sections, etc. Maps and proper directions are recorded,

There are approximately seventy persons involved in this project.

We hope this information will be helpful to many. It is said "He that hath no regard for his ancestors does not deserve to be remembered by his posterity."

Mrs. F. E. (Leona) Shreffler  
Cemetery Chairman

#### NEW OF OUR MEMBERS

Edward Virgin, past president of our society, has had an article, entitled REMEMBER GOOD DEEDS OF OTHERS LONG AGO, published in the BANNER PRESS, Matble Hill, Bollinger County, Missouri. The article appeared in the December 25, 1975 issue. The paper is publishing a series of historical articles about people, places or events in Bollinger County. A copy of the paper has been placed in our file at the Library.

At the January monthly meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beebe of Watseka were unanimously elected Honorary membership of the Society. Mr. and Mrs. Beebe were instrumental in the organization of our Society and Mr. Beebe served for two years as our president. He also served as chairman of the Program committee. They have contributed articles for THE-A-KI-KI. They traveled many miles to attend our monthly meetings, board meetings and special meetings for indexing the 1906 History of Kankakee County which we reprinted. We feel this is a small token for their devotion and service to our Society.

PEDIGREE CHARTS

Dorathea Warner  
564 Seven Trees Village Way  
San Jose, California

1. Dorathea Elizabeth WARNER  
b. 12 July 1906  
San Jose, California  
m. 12 September 1925
2. Frank Westal WARNER  
b. 21 July 1880  
Modesto, California  
m. 7 September 1904  
d. 6 March 1963  
San Jose, California
3. Ella Dora DITTUS  
b. 19 November 1881  
Chicago, Illinois  
d. 6 December 1924  
San Jose, California
4. Franklin Horatio WARNER  
b. 20 November 1852  
Flushing, Ohio  
m. (2)  
d. 6 December 1942  
Sonora, California
5. Mary Elizabeth MAHONEY  
b. 5 April 1861  
Stockton, California  
d. 20 March 1940  
San Jose, California
6. Frank Matthias DITTUS  
b. 8 November 1859  
Kankakee, Illinois  
m. 31 September 1879  
d. 21 May 1958  
San Jose, California
7. Annie O'TOOLE (TOOLE)  
b. 7 September 1860  
Ireland  
d. 16 April 1889  
Chicago, Illinois
8. Horace Wilkinson WARNER  
b. 7 June 1822  
Washington, Conn.  
m. 31 December 1846  
d. 23 April 1875  
Olin, Iowa
9. Martha Ann SCOLES  
b. 29 July 1823  
Flushing, Ohio  
d. 16 May 1911  
Olin, Iowa
10. Broderick MAHONEY
11. Amelia L. GIRARD  
b. 22 January 1835  
d. 22 January 1923  
San Jose, California
12. John Jacob DITTUS  
b. 2 February 1823  
Speyer Wurtemberg, Germany  
m. ca 1844  
d. 1 June 1912  
San Jose, California
13. Dorathea (Dora) RHEM  
b. 1826  
Rhem, Alsace-Lorraine  
d. Illinois
14. Timothy O'TOOLE (TOOLE)
15. Mary
16. Alva WARNER  
d. 1829
17. Jerusha WHEELER
18. John SCOLES  
b. 17 April 1799  
m. 25 April 1820  
d. 11 December 1882



19. Elizabeth Jane POWELL  
b. 2 December 1799

26. John RHEM (RHEIM-RAHM)

27. Salona

Donald R. Hotchkiss  
564 Seven Trees Village Way  
San Jose, California

1. Donald Roosevelt HOTCHKISS  
b. 12 January 1902  
Webster City, Iowa  
m. 12 September 1925

2. Allen Lamont HOTCHKISS  
b. 15 December 1864

3. Ruth Isabelle WARNER  
b. 8 January 1866  
Jefferson, Ohio  
d. 1951  
San Jose, California

4. David HOTCHKISS  
b. 30 December 1833  
Connecticut  
d. Jefferson, Ohio

5. Rebecca WHALEY (WHALEN)  
b. England  
d. Ohio

6. Thomas Sydenham WARNER  
d. 11 March 1900  
Jefferson, Ohio

7. Tryphena STANDON  
b. 3 February 1825  
Cranbrook Co. Kent, England  
d. May 1885  
Jefferson, Ohio

8. Demas HOTCHKISS  
b. 25 April 1798  
d. 26 December 1881

9. Orpha BRYANT

12. David Warner  
b. Connecticut  
d. Ohio

16. Stiles HOTCHKISS  
b. 1 January 1768  
d. 29 August 1846

17. Polly HORTON

R. D. Hall  
801 Pacific Ave.  
Manhattan Beach, Cal. 90266

1. Robert Dale Hall  
b. 7 December 1925  
Watseka, Illinois  
m. 7 June 1968

2. Burt Horace HALL  
b. 17 March 1898  
Momence, Illinois  
m. 1919  
d. 8 September 1968  
Potomac, Illinois

3. Lillian Bell VAN CAMP  
b. Prairie Green, Ill.  
13 June 1900  
d. 13 January 1944  
Potomac, Illinois

4. George Edward HALL  
b. 1 June 1865  
Momence, Illinois  
m. 25 September 1889  
d. 1929  
Watseka, Illinois

5. Flora Persis SHERWOOD  
b. 1872  
Illinois  
d. Illinois

6. John Wesley VAN CAMP  
b. 5 March 1867  
Deer Creek, Illinois  
m. 17 September 1896  
d. 20 August 1920  
Lafayette, Indiana

7. Mary Bell SASSAMAR  
b. 23 January 1877  
Westpoint, Indiana  
d. 21 December 1972  
Watseska, Illinois

8. James Madison HALL  
 b. 18 February 1828  
 Argyle, New York  
 m. 4 April 1855  
 d. 25 March 1891  
 Illinois
9. Mary Florella OLDS  
 b. 2 February 1832  
 Washington Co., New York  
 d. 2 February 1903  
 Illinois
10. Horace SHERWOOD  
 b. 1827  
 Canada  
 m. 1871  
 d. Illinois
11. Chellate  
 b. 1848  
 New York  
 d. Illinois
12. John David VAN CAMP  
 b. 20 September 1827  
 Huntington, New Jersey  
 m. 10 September 1853  
 d. 29 October 1905  
 Sheldon, Illinois
13. Elizabeth DUMONT  
 b. New Jersey  
 d. 4 July 1897  
 Sheldon, Illinois
14. Samuel SASSAMAN  
 b. 1836  
 Pennsylvania  
 m. 1868  
 d. 1878  
 Indiana
15. Mary Jane ROBINSON  
 b. 7 February 1834  
 Aghnacloy, Ireland  
 d. 1895  
 Westpoint, Indiana
16. Joel HALL
17. Nancy  
 b. 1793  
 New York
20. Martin SHERWOOD  
 b. 1805  
 Canada
21. Margaret FORCE  
 b. 1811  
 Canada
30. William ROBINSON  
 b. Ireland
31. Mary  
 b. Ireland
- Charles R. Montgomery  
 Clifton, Illinois
1. Charles Ray Montgomery  
 b. 1 July 1904  
 m. 1 June 1935  
 Steele, North Dakota
2. William A. Montgomery  
 b. 27 April 1849  
 Iroquois County, Illinois  
 m. 1 February 1882  
 d. 7 August, 1925
3. Mellissa Jane BURGETT  
 b. 26 June 1861  
 Iroquois County, Ill.  
 d. 23 May 1937
4. Samuel W. Montgomery  
 b. 30 April 1816  
 Russell County, Va.  
 m. 13 January 1842  
 d. 29 September 1893  
 Iroquois County, Illinois
5. Sarah HERRIMAN  
 b. Clarke County, Ind.  
 d. 14 January 1894  
 Iroquois County, Ill.

6. Klias BURGETT  
b. Ohio
8. Alex MONTGOMERY  
d. 1822
9. Barbara HARRIS  
d. ca 1861  
Illinois
10. Stephen HERRIMAN  
b. 5 December 1783  
Hopkinton, N. H.  
m. 8 December 1808  
d. 27 May 1857  
Iroquois Co. Ill.
11. Abigail BUCKUND  
d. Clark Co., Ohio
20. Stephen HERRIMAN  
b. 10 March 1757  
Haverhill, Mass  
m. 2 December 1777  
d. 25 February 1828  
Clark Co. Ohio
21. Lucy STORY  
b. Ipswich, Mass
40. Stephen HERRIMAN  
b. 9 March 1727  
Haverhill, Mass  
m. 10 March 1742  
d. 1 February 1804  
Contoocook, N. H.
41. Sarah MASCRAFT  
b. 29 August 1727  
Woodstock, Conn.  
d. 17 December 1800  
Contoocook, N. H.
42. Jeremiah STORY
43. Margaret HARRIS
80. Stephen HARRIMAN  
b. 25 April 1703  
Haverhill, Mass  
m. 25 December 1723
81. Patience ROBERDS (ROBERTS)  
b. 5 January 1703  
Haverhill, Mass  
d. 26 August 1742  
Haverhill, Mass.
82. Samuel Mascraft
83. Thankful HOLMES
160. Matthew HARRIMAN  
b. 26 January 1673  
Haverhill, Mass  
m. 14 February 1680  
d. 28 October 1743
161. Martha PAGE
162. Ephraim ROBERTS
163. Hannah
320. Matthew HARRIMAN  
b. 16 June 1652  
Rowley, Mass.  
m. 20 December 1673
321. Elizabeth SWAN  
b. 30 September 1653
322. Joseph PAGE
323. Martha Dow HEATH
640. Leonard HARRIAN  
b. 1619  
England  
d. 6 May 1691  
Rowley, Mass
641. Margaret PALMER
642. Robert SWAN
643. Elizabeth ACY

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#### QUERY

Mrs. W. H. Newton, 3606-8 Vista Rey, Oceanside, California 92054

AYERS Desire information on the parents of Ellen Ayers or Ayres who  
 AYRES married George A. WEBLER in Kankakee, Ill. 1875. Children:  
 WEBLER Thomas married Mary A. NEVEAU; Mary; George H; Robert.  
 NEVEAU