



PIONEER RECORD

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The Pluck of the Irish

By Gloria Kunding

1 The Great Potato Famine of 1845-1852
 2 caused many poor Irish people to leave
 2 Ireland for Canada and the United States.
 2 Starving, sick, and penniless, most endured
 3 a nightmarish trip across the Atlantic to
 3 settle in a new land of opportunity. Many
 3 died in the attempt. Ill and impoverished,
 5 they were not greeted with open arms by
 5 their new countrymen. Yet somehow they
 5 prevailed.

6 In Ireland, a potato blight destroyed the
 8 major crop and food source of the tenant
 8 farmers. Unable to pay their rent, they
 9 were either evicted from their homes or
 9 their landlords paid them enough for pas-
 9 sage to North America with the false prom-
 9 ise of money and necessities once they
 10 arrived. Those who were evicted ended up
 10 in government work houses where many
 10 died from typhus and cholera.

Threatened with eviction, others crossed
 the Irish Sea to go to Liverpool, Glasgow,
 or South Wales. The trip cost only a few
 shillings for those who had money from
 their landlords. Others crossed for nothing
 as ballast in returning coal ships.

In England and Scotland, the Irish found
 food hand-outs of better quality and quan-
 tity than those in Ireland's work houses
 and soup kitchens. As more Irish made
 their way to Liverpool, low-cost housing
 became crowded and scarce. Worst of all,
 typhus epidemics would break out in the
 over-crowded tenements.

In 1847, Liverpool and Glasgow were
 overwhelmed by the Irish. After the popu-
 lation of those cities more than doubled,
 Great Britain began deporting them back to
 Ireland to control the diseases and over-
 crowded conditions. Those that were sent
 back to Ireland faced certain death from
 disease or starvation.

Those Irish who intended to travel to
 North America were also thrust into
 the crowded, vermin infested tene-
 ments while waiting for their ship to
 depart. They contracted typhus and
 dysentery then took it aboard the
 ships when they left. Seventy-five
 percent of the Irish sailed from Liv-
 erpool. Glasgow was the second
 largest port of departure.

The name "coffin ships" was given
 to the badly constructed and often
 unsafe sailing ships that the Irish
 were packed, at sometimes double
 the ship's capacity, for the long voy-
 age to North America. The voyage
 took anywhere from forty days to
 three months depending on the
 weather.

Poorly outfitted, many of the "coffin
 ships" were empty Canadian timber
 and fur ships that carried the Irish as
 human ballast for a profitable return
 to Canada.

Each passenger was checked by a
 doctor then allowed to board the
 ship. The doctor seldom kept any-
 one from going even if they were ill
 with typhus. Some were ready to
 die. There was no ship's doctor on
 board and those that died were bur-
 ied at sea without a religious cere-
 mony.

During the trip, British ships pro-
 vided a weekly ration of only seven
 pounds of food for each passenger.
 Since the Irish were too poor to
 bring more food for the trip as was
 expected, they relied solely on the
 meager ship's ration of a pound a
 day for sustenance. The ship's food
 wasn't always thoroughly cooked
 and resulted in stomach upset and

(Continued on page 4)

Midland Genealogical Society Programs for 2007 - 2008

Meetings are scheduled on the third
Wednesday of the month unless oth-
erwise noted..

Programs for the meetings are as
follows.

February 20, 2008 meeting 7:00 Lounge

A panel consisting of Laessa Northrup, Betty
Bellous, Quita Shier, and Doug Applegath,
will be answering your questions concerning
your dead-end problems. See further info on
page 3.

March 19, 2008 meeting 7:00 Lounge

Wilma Diesen will repate her experiences in
doing research for a family member entitled
"Illegitimate Descendants of British Royalty."

April 16, 2008 meeting 7:00 Library Auditorium

Jay Brandow, from station WNEM-TV5 will
speak on "The Captains Chair".

May 21, 2008 meeting 7:00 Carriage House

Earl Ebach will speak on "The 1792 Letter",
also our Annual Meeting and Election of Offi-
cers.

The Presidents Letter

Snow, snow, snow and more snow. This describes our winter in Michigan this year. My wife is tired of shoveling and looks forward to warm weather, green grass, leaves and spring flowers. I am sure she is not alone with these feelings.

Our winter MGS meetings are highlighted with good programs. We look forward to the March meeting, which, in cooperation with the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, will present our local well-known TV broadcaster, Jay Brandow. He has an interesting historical and genealogical story to tell.

The MGS Board has dropped several proposed activities due to lack of members interested in pursuing them. Fourteen members will be going on the genealogical research trip to the Allen County Public Library in April. The planning committee for the MGC 2009 Seminar to be held October 15-17, 2009 at the Valley Plaza Resort is moving forward. Ralph Hillman has put together a group of speakers who will provide an interesting and enjoyable seminar.

As genealogists, we all know what a "brick-wall" is. We have all met "brick-walls" several times in our research. My present "brick-wall" is: "How do we successfully encourage Society members to become active in leadership positions for proposed programs – along with getting members to participate in our programs?". Two years ago when I volunteered to become president of the MGS, I was all pumped up with ideas and plans. Only a few of them have become reality. We have a very good group serving on the MGS Board along with several other members participating in projects and attending meetings regularly. But where are the others?

From The Editor . . .

This month's issue covers a lot of material. Hopefully, you will find something useful. Sorry if this issue reaches you late as I have been busy dealing with family health issues.

I decided to write an article about some of Midland's pioneers for this issue. As I researched this family, I was very surprised to find this family and their ancestors so well documented in books that are available on line using your library card to access.

We have four more general MGS meetings yet this year. Hopefully attendance will improve and we will fill the meeting rooms.

The sun is shining outside now, but more snow is forecast. I can hardly wait for spring.

Earl Ebach, MGS President,

Using Google Maps for

GPS Coordinates

There was a [recent article on *Re-searching the Landscape*](#) where photos were taken of the surrounding landscape where some family grew up or came from in the area.

I have been looking up places where there were villages or small towns on Google Maps and recording them as a website link. This actually gives the GPS coordinates for small plots of ground and even graveyards you can see. Many people are using GPS today in travel and other endeavors, and with these links, shared by blog or e-mail, they can travel to within a few yards of any given location. These can also be stored on the site for each family name in a "collection."

DrCohagan
Bentonville, AR

Much information for this article came from town and family histories. Remember when researching, to check the town and county history books for the area to see if something was written about your family. Midland Historical Newspapers are now online and available from your home computer. See the article on the next page. Please send me your articles for the final issue of the year no later than April 30, 2008.

Walt Bennett, Editor

Tips from the Pros: Genealogy for Kids--*The Great Roots Pursuit* by George G. Morgan

Getting young people interested in family history can be a rewarding enterprise for the entire family. [The Genealogy Today website](#) has announced a new junior version of its site called [The Great Roots Pursuit](#), written by Deanna Corbeil. In her monthly column, Deanna provides kid-safe and kid-friendly articles to get them interested and involved in the genealogy mysteries and searching for clues. Activities, news, a reference desk, and other features make this a fun site. You also can suggest topics or write an article yourself.



Future Americans approaching Ellis Island.

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2007-2008

The collection of MGS membership dues for 2007-2008 will conclude at the September 19th MGS meeting. The MGS treasurer and Membership chairs have been collecting dues since last May 2007, although there has been no specific request. If your dues are not paid by the end of September, this may be the last Pioneer Record you will receive. Dues may also be paid by mail to: Membership Chair, Midland Genealogical Society, Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640. Dues for an individual are \$14.00; for a family they are \$17.50.

Programs

On Wednesday, February 20, there will be a panel consisting of Laressa Northrup, Betty Bellous, Quita Schier, Doug Apple-gath to answer members questions concern-ing their dead--end problems. Laressa has taught classes so her expertise is in many fields; Betty has had many experiences especially with Polish research; Quita has great knowledge with military records and Michigan Indians; Doug has worked in Ontario and Northern Ireland.

NOTE: QUESTIONS ARE NEEDED and preferably BEFORE the meeting so that the panel might be prepared. (Call one of the above or Jo Brines, 832-8312. ANY QUESTION (not only on the areas listed above) IS A GOOD QUESTION!

On Wednesday, March 19, Wilma Diesen will relate her experiences in doing re-search for a family member entitled, "Illegitimate Descendents of British Roy-alty".

On Wednesday, April 16, in the Library Auditorium, Jay Brandow from Station WNEM-TV5 will speak on "The Captains Chair." The story of discovering historical buried treasure on Mr. Brandow's restora-tion project of a Victorian house in Bay City. This program is sponsored jointly by the MGS/Grace A. Dow Library and will be open to the public.

On Wednesday, May 21 at the Carriage House, our President, Earl Ebach will speak on "The 1792 Letter". This will also be our annual meeting and election of offi-cers. Please plan on attending if you are able.

Jo Brines

Midland Historical Newspaper's Digitized

• You can now access the digitized copies of Midland's historical newspapers consist-ing of :

- Bartram's Cheek, 1870
- The Midland Times, 1872-1875
- The Midland Republican 1881-1922
- The Midland Sun, 1881-1922

Go to the Grace A. Dow Library website and select Research Resources. Then select His-torical Newspapers. You will need to enter the bar code number on your library card.

This is fully text searchable. I have been using this resource already and find this a wonderful addition to our resources.

This link will also get you to Historical New York Times covering 1851-2004.



A Note about Census Takers

From an actual letter to a marshal of census enumerators from a census taker in 1790, the year of the first Federal C e n s u s :
Sir:

I beg to report that I have been dogbit, goose-pecked, cow kicked, briar-scratched, shot at, and called every "fowel" that can eb tho't of. I have worked 12 days and made \$2. I have had enough and I beg to resign my posi-tion as a census taker for Crittenden Township.

The record doesn't show if his resigna-tion was accepted.

Here is another letter from a census taker in 1865:

I am a census taker for the City of buffa-low. Our city has groan very fast in re-sent years and now in 1865, it has be-come a hard and time consuming job to count all the poophill. There is not many that can do this work, as it is necessarie to have an ejucashun, wich a lot of per-son still do not have. Ahnuther atribert needed for this job is good spelling for many the peephil to be counted can harle speak inglish, let alon spel there names.

Still wondering why you can't find your ancestors on the census?



B O O K S F O R S A L E

The following books, published by the Midland Genealogical Society, are available for sale at any meeting, at the Midland Genealogy Room, Grace A. Dow Public Library or by mail. Price of each book is \$20.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling.

Midland County Obituary Index (#1) – 1872-1927. The book consists of 16,000 abstractions covering 55 years from the Midland Times (1872 -1875), The Midland Sun (1892 -1924) and the Midland Republican (1881-1927). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 ½ by 11 inches.

Midland County Obituary Index (#2) – 1928-1950. The book consists of about 8,000 abstractions covering 22 years from the Midland Republican (1928 - 1937) and the Midland Daily News (1937 - 1950). The soft bound 238 page book is 8 ½ by 11 inches. Note: Both Obituary Books (#1 & #2) are available as a package of \$35.00.

Midland County Obituary Index (#3)-1951-1982 This book consists of 30,900 entries including about 4000 maiden names covering 22 years extracted from Midland Daily News. The 387 page, 8½ by 11, soft bound book consists of two volumes A through L and M through Z. The set costs \$40 plus \$5 postage and handling.

Midland Pioneers, edited by Ora Flaningham. This book is a compilation of the most interesting genealogical, historical and humorous reprints from newspapers published in the Pioneer Record. The book is 6 by 9 inches, soft bound, 259 pages. (Out of print, but orders being compiled at Genealogy desk.)

To ORDER A BOOK write: Midland Genealogical Society BOOK: Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.

diarrhea. Stored in old wooden barrels, the drinking water was often bad. It caused diarrhea because many of the barrels were reused after having held a variety of substances from wine, chemicals, or vinegar.

The conditions in the holds were deplorable. Hundreds of passengers were crowded together with no fresh air. The stench of diarrhea and vomit prevailed because there was a lack of proper sanitation. If there were any, the sleeping berths were bare and never cleaned or disinfected. Some sick passengers, too ill to get up, spent most of the voyage lying in their own mess.

Arriving in the St. Lawrence River, the ships stopped for medical inspection at the Grosse Isle quarantine station before going on to Quebec, thirty miles upstream. Grosse Isle's hospital contained one-hundred-fifty beds. In the spring of 1847, there were forty ships with 14,000 Irish passengers waiting for inspection at Grosse Isle. The line stretched two miles down the river, and the ships had a five-day wait. Meanwhile, many who were healthy became ill from contact with those already sick on board. Later in the year, a fifteen-day on-board quarantine was imposed. Many died that they were simply thrown into the St. Lawrence River.

When their turn came, the ill were sent in small boats to Grosse Isle swamping the hospital and other makeshift facilities on the island. Dead bodies were stacked into piles and buried in mass graves. Over 5,000 Irish died at Grosse Isle. Finally the quarantines were abandoned and passengers were sent on to Quebec, Montreal, and other cities where the medical facilities there were overwhelmed. Out of 1,000,000 immigrants in 1847, twenty thousand died from disease or malnutrition.

The Canadians shunned the Irish because they brought disease with them. After they arrived, the Irish discovered that there was no promised money and necessities. Half of the

survivors walked across the border to the United States to begin a new life then sent for their families later. Between 1850 and 1860, those that remained in Canada provided the inexpensive labor that built buildings, railroads, and bridges during Canada's economic growth period.

The U. S. Passenger Acts were passed by congress to regulate the number of passengers that a ship could transport and also their accommodations. This caused an increase in fares which served to reduce the number of Irish immigrants to the United States--stopping it from becoming a dumping ground for Europe's poor.

Between 1847 and 1854, roughly 20,000 immigrants, mostly Irish, arrived in Boston because it was a port for the British Cunard ship line. Since passenger fares were subsidized by Britain, the poor Irish were able to purchase a ticket to the U. S. Upon arrival, many Irish immigrants decided to settle in Boston much to the chagrin of Bostonians who were Mayflower descendants.

The Irish settlers were victimized by crooked landlords who divided homes into cheap rooms and charged \$1.50 a week per family for a nine-by-eleven foot room with no water, fresh air or sanitary facilities. Hundreds of Irish were living in previously single-family, three-story homes that were so divided. No housing or sanitary regulations existed at this time, and the landlords profited from it. Old warehouses, cellars, and shacks in backyards and alleys became "home" to the Irish.

Cholera prevailed in these slums causing sixty percent of Irish children born at this time not to live past the age of six. Adults didn't fare much better with many dying after having lived in the U. S. only six years. Crime was rampant, schooling was unheard of, and the Irish and Bostonians competed for the limited number of unskilled jobs in Boston. Signs that said, "No Irish Need Apply," were common throughout the city.

Unlike other immigrants who spread out around the United States, ninety percent of the Irish lived in enclaves in the larger cities. They liked to be among other Irishmen. New York was able to absorb a large influx of Irish and people there weren't as prejudiced against them as

those in Boston. However, the Irish in New York were also hit by con men selling phony railroad and boat tickets to those going elsewhere and renting them hovels for boarding houses. Infant mortality and crime were high there as well.

After the Civil War, the Irish provided the labor needed for expanding industry in the United States. They were hard working and formed trade unions to fight for better wages. Many sent for family back in Ireland. Even though the numbers had diminished, the Irish still immigrated to the U. S. after the potato famine.

For those researching Irish ancestry, NARA has indexes and passenger lists for Boston from 1848 to 1891. However the Massachusetts State Archives in Boston is the only place that has the missing passenger lists from 1855-1856 and 1874-1882. Both the LDS and NARA have an index for Boston that includes the missing lists as well as the NARA ones for 1848-1891.

They left Ireland during the worst of times and under adverse circumstances. Once here, the survivors overcame more hardships and prejudice to become citizens of Canada or the United States. They worked hard and contributed the muscle needed to build their countries into great industrialized nations while creating a better life for their families. One could say "It's the luck of the Irish." More likely the phrase should be, "It's the Pluck of the Irish."

Sources

Boston Passenger List. Wee Page. <http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/boston.html>.

The Force of Hope: Irish Immigration History. A Scattering of Seeds. <http://www.whitepinepictures.com>.

"If Not Through New York, Then Where?" Family Chronicle. May/June 1999. <http://www.familychronicle.com>.

Irish Immigration History. Your Life Through Irish Eyes. 2007. <http://www.yourirish.com>.

Inhabitants Lists Before the Census

by Sherry Irvine, CG, FSA Scot

In England and Wales, modern census records used by genealogists start with the enumeration of 1841. There were earlier official counts of the population in 1831, 1821, 1811 and 1801, but very few lists of names survive.

Before 1800 there were no government census returns but there were records that can be regarded as genealogically useful lists of inhabitants. You will find that early lists had a special purpose such as recording taxpayers, people of a particular religious persuasion, or people who swore an oath of loyalty. None systematically recorded all members of each family or household but some recorded the majority of heads of households in a parish. To make the most of early lists it is important to determine for each type its purpose, date range, and contents. In this article I will summarize two records.

Two Lists

Land Tax: Land tax records, which began in 1692, show the names of owners of land subject to taxation, along with information about the land and the tax amount. The most useful period is from 1780 to 1832 when the style is uniform and the names of occupiers also appear. For one year, 1798, a national list was prepared of all those paying the tax (not tenants) because it

became possible at that time to make a lump sum payment and be excused ("exonerated") from making the payment ever again.

Protestation Returns: On the eve of the Civil War, Charles I and Parliament were at odds. After ruling for eleven years without Parliament, Charles needed its approval of additional taxes to fund his war with Scotland. When Parliament was recalled in 1641, all members voted to support the true Protestant religion, rights of subjects and the privileges of Parliament. Several months later Parliament voted to send the oath round to every parish so all adult men (eighteen and over) could sign it. Some returns survive for about one third of all parishes.

Finding the Lists

Land tax records are usually in county record offices in England and Wales but the 1798 list is in The National Archives. Many have been filmed by the Family History Library. Laborers do not usually appear in land tax records. Most of the original Protestation Returns are held in the House of Lords Record Office. These have been filmed by the Family History Library, and many have been published.

Begin your search with methodology books (see Further Reading) where you will find

descriptions of the various tax and loyalty records as well as advice on use and access. Other records from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries that fall into this category include hearth tax returns, poll taxes, window tax lists, Association Oath Rolls for those with Catholic ancestors, and records of recusants. (A recusant was anyone who did not attend Sunday services of the local parish church—Church of England.)

Find any lists that coincide with or overlap the dates of your research, read about them, and then find out how to access them. Begin online, use Gibson Guides (see Further Reading), and the Family History Library Catalog. Here are some suggestions:

- Put a search term into your favorite search engine, such as a combination of place name and record type: *Wolverhampton window tax* or *Willenhall hearth tax*.
- Check for information guides at the website of The National Archives and the appropriate county record office (e.g., [The National Archives](#) has a helpful leaflet about the hearth tax and a finding aid to the places found among the surviving records).
- Search the [Family History Library Catalog](#) for the county level tax records or a keyword search for the list (such as Protestation Returns Wiltshire).
- Check the county page at the [Genealogy UK and Ireland website \(GENUKI\)](#) as many offer useful information about published records, where to find what survives, etc.

You may find more information among my articles within the Ancestry Library:

- What are Subsidies?** (2003)*Note that it refers to the Public Record Office, now called The National Archives.*
- More about Taxes in the 1600s** (2005)*This article tells you more about the finding aids at The National Archives.*

Genealogical Value

Records like these only occasionally provide relationship information; for example, when an owner or tenant dies and is succeeded by a spouse or child. Name, date and place are the facts you learn and perhaps other identifiers such as occupation and religion. The value of this information will vary depending on the nature of your problem. There is no doubt that it is always best to gather these facts and build the fullest picture possible.

Early lists are nowhere near as useful as census returns, but they should not be disregarded. Learning about the records adds to your knowledge of history and finding the records will either reinforce what you already know or guide you to new ideas.

From Ancestry Weekly Journal 1-28-2008

COMING EVENTS

March 29, 2008

There will be a free genealogy seminar at the **Library of Michigan**, 1 pm-4:30 pm. Topics to be discussed are: Negotiating Online Passenger & Immigration Lists, Online Research with U.S. Census Records, Effectively Using HeritageQuest Online, Vital Records on the Internet, Utilizing Footnote.com at the Library of Michigan, Cooperation Brings More to Genealogists: The New Family History Archive Collection For further information and to register, please go to the Library of Michigan Website.

April 5, 2008

The **Monroe County Genealogical Society** is hosting a seminar at Monroe County Community College. This is titled "A Day with John Humphrey". To be discussed are: Researching German Ancestors: "The Agony and the Ecstasy", Reconstructing Families on the Colonial Frontier, Researching Eighteenth-Century Germans, Finding Your German Ancestor's Place of Origin. For further information please see the society's website at : <http://www.gsmc-michigan.org/>.

Public Inspection of Vital Records at Local Registrar Offices

Access to birth records less than 110 years old, or access to marriage or death records less than 75 years old in a local office must be restricted to situations that meet the definitions set up within Michigan Law and Administrative Rules.

Current Michigan Law and Administrative Rules prohibit the direct review of vital record files, except in unusual circumstances. These circumstances are limited to the inspection of specific individual marriage and death records in a local registrar's office. Inspection of indexes is clearly allowed under both Michigan Law and Administrative Rules.

Secondly, the Social Security Number Privacy Act of 2004 (MCL 445.83) allows Michigan vital records offices to issue certified copies of vital records that contain social security numbers to eligible applicants. However, the law does not allow for the physical inspection of vital records that contain social security numbers.

Midland Pioneer's - The Winslow Family of Laporte and their Ancestry

By Walter G. Bennett

Curtis J. Winslow, farmer, was born April 13, 1851 in Barnard, Windsor County, Vermont, the child of Loring S. and Mary (Brown) Winslow. He came to Midland County with his brothers, Joseph J. and Loring S. Winslow when he was 15 years old. His father had purchased from the government about 20 years previously under the administration of Franklin Pierce. The rest of the family came the next year. The brothers began work to clear up the land and work it. He had worked in lumbering and in the spring of 1873 he purchased a small stock of groceries and a small house owned by Levi Chamberlain at Lee's Corners. Lee's Corners was the prior name of Laporte located at the corner of Smith's Crossing and Laporte Roads. Two years later, he formed a partnership with James Chamberlain, under the firm name of Winslow and Chamberlain. A year later, Mr. Winslow bought out the entire stock of drug and general merchandise and continued in this business until 1883, when he sold out to his brother Charles in January 1883. He moved to Saginaw county and purchased 74 acres of land. He built a house on the land and cleared 10 acres for cultivation. While living in Midland county, he was the Supervisor of Ingersoll Township for a year and the Township Clerk for four years. In 1873 he was appointed Postmaster at Lee's Corners, under President Grant. He later went to West Branch and established a drug business which he ran successfully for several years. He had lived there for many years and also spent a few years in California, Washington and Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Curtis was married in Ingersoll Township on April 1873 to Miss Clara A. Chamberlain, daughter of Erial and Mary A. Chamberlain. They had two children, Rollin C. and Frank. Frank died in August 1877.

Clara died April 12, 1875 and Curtis married again to Miss Eva A. Hutchins, January 6, 1877 in Ingersoll Township, daughter of Solon T. and Hoanna (Cooley) Hutchins. Of this marriage, three children were born. Susan Daisy, Cora E., and Glen C.

Curtis was a manager and member of the Winslow Brothers Martial Band, which was one of the leading bands of the day for Midland and Saginaw counties.

Soon before his death on June 6, 1922, he moved with his wife to Hemet, California to live with his daughter, Susan Ferguson.

Charles H. Winslow was born April 7, 1846, in Barnard, Windsor County, Vermont, the child of Loring S. and Mary (Brown) Winslow. He came to Midland county in the spring of 1846 when he was 21 years old. He lived in Midland most of his life. In January 1883, he bought the store from his brother Curtis. On September 13, 1874, he was married in Ingersoll Township to Miss Harriet F. Chase born in Lapeer county on April 4, 1849, daughter of Job and Sarah E. (Mann) Chase, both natives of New York State. Their children were Laura H., Loring S., Charles H., John W., Julia F., and Robert I and a few others. Charles, Sr. died August 23, 1910 at his home in Ingersoll Township.

His son Loring S. had moved to Livingston, Montana. Julia died at Port Hope in 1927.

Joseph J. Winslow, also the son of Loring S. and Mary (Brown) Winslow, was born May 17, 1844 in Barnard, Windsor County, Vermont and was the first born. He attended common and high schools there until the age of 18, where he enlisted on Sept. 17, 1862 in Company G., 16th Vt. Regiment as fifer and served until August 1863, when he was mustered out. A year later, he re-enlisted in the Ninth Vt Regiment on Sept. 15, 1864 and served till the close of the war. He was one of the first Yankee soldiers to carry a musket into the

city of Richmond when it fell to Union forces. During his first term, he was confined to a hospital for about three weeks with lung fever. He fought in the battle of Gettysburg, PA, Chapin's Farm, VA and on Williamsburg Road, prior to the battle at Richmond. After discharge he worked with his father doing marble work, engraving grave-stones. He came to Midland County in March 1866 and bought 80 acres of unimproved land in Ingersoll Township and cultivated about 25 acres.

Joseph had served as Constable for three years, Justice of the Peace for several years. He also served at Township supervisor.

On June 12, 1870 in Richland Township, Saginaw, he married Miss Mary S. Smith, daughter of Gilbert and Dolly (Gibbs) Smith. Mary was born in Niagara County, New York on May 25, 1851. They raised several children, namely, Lena R., Nellie J., Joseph L., Dolly M. and Ida C.

The parents of these brothers were Loring S. and Mary (Brown) Winslow. Loring was a farmer in Ingersoll Township on section 35. His parents were Joseph and Anna (Curtis) Winslow who were both natives of New York State. Loring was born in New York State on March 12, 1807 and learned the blacksmith trade from his uncle in Barnard, Vt. He also had learned the trade of stone cutting where he worked carving the headstones in the cemetery. When he was 21 years old, he married Joanna Richmond, who died 2 and a half years later. After being an eligible bachelor for 5 years he married Mary, daughter of Josiah and Submit (Perham) Brown, both natives of New England. Mary was born in Goshen, Vt. on May 21, 1817. She gave birth to seven sons, namely: Joseph J., Charles H., Loring S., Curtis J., John E., Willie G. and

Frank P.

Mr. Winslow came to Midland in the fall of 1867 and settled on 200 acres of land which he had "taken up" several years previously. He remained here until he died on March 26, 1876. He also practiced medicine for several years and also held the office of Justice of the Peace in Ingersoll Township.

Loring's father, Joseph, was the son of Ezra and Rosamond Spooner, daughter of Thomas and Rebecca (Paddock) Spooner of New London. Incidentally, Loring's middle name is Spooner. Joseph was born in Hardwick, Worcester, Massachusetts and was baptized on August 27, 1780. Loring's grandfather, Ezra was born May 10, 1751. Ezra and Rosamond had the following children: Thomas, Susan who married Abel Babbitt, Alice, baptised November 16, 1777 and married Clark Dexter on Oct 16, 1796, Joseph, Ezra, baptised March 16, 1783, was a joiner, and died at Ware on March 27, 1857, Rosamond, born 1785 and died Sept 13, 1803 at the age of 18 and was reputed to be very beautiful and amiable, George Rex born 1788 and was a blacksmith, died at Ware on October 30, 1862, Ezra, the father, came to Hardwick about 1776 and resided between the two roads to Gilbertville. He was thrown from a horse and killed August 12, 1789. His widow, Rosamond married Richard Ransom of Woodstock, Vt. Ezra was a descendant of Job through Richard of Freetown, Bristol, MA, born about 1685 and Hezekiah of Freetown, born December 9, 1713.

Thomas Spooner was the son of John and Rosamond (Hammond), married Rebecca, daughter of Judah and Alice (Alden) Paddock, granddaughter of David Alden, and great-granddaughter of John Alden, the Pilgrim on June 10, 1742. They had the following children: Rebecca (1743) John (1745), Thomas (1747), Judah (1748) Rosamond (1751), Alice (1753), Jeduthun (1755), Alden (1757), Frances (1760). Thomas the father, was a carpenter or housewright and resided at Newport, RI

and afterwards at New London, CT. His five sons are said to have rendered military service in the Revolutionary War, and two of them, with his son-in-law, were the earliest printers in Vermont. After Thomas died in March 1767, his widow Rebecca, probably came to Hardwick, with her son Jeduthun or her daughter Rosamond Winslow. She then married Captain Joseph Warner of Cummington, formerly of Hardwick on November 12, 1781.

John Alden, was one of the most noted of the original members of the Plymouth colony. He was born in England in 1599 and died at Duxbury, Massachusetts on September 12, 1687. He was employed as a cooper (barrel maker) at Southampton, while the Mayflower was there undergoing repairs. John was married to Priscilla Mullins, daughter of William Mullins, also a passenger on the Mayflower. William and his wife Alice and son Joseph died during the first winter at the colonies. Priscilla then became an orphan only having a



brother and sister that remained in England. A story goes that Captain Myles Standish who was newly widowed asked John to propose on his behalf. Priscilla responded with "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?" This can be found in a poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow who also descended from the Alden line. Their marriage is believed to have been the third marriage at Plymouth, Priscilla and John supposedly had eleven children but only ten have been identified. It is believed that John and Priscilla had the largest number of descendents of all

those who migrated to America aboard the Mayflower. John was assistant to the Governor to the colonies from 1633 to 1675 and frequently served as acting governor. He also sat on many juries including one of the two witch trials at Plymouth,

John and Priscilla's house built in 1653 at Duxbury, MA is open to the public for tours. Herbert Henry Dow is also noted as being an Alden descendant as well as John Adams, John Q. Adams, Orson Wells, Dan Quayle, Raquel Welch, Dick Van Dyke, Julia Child and Marilyn Monroe.

Sources:

"A brief sketch of the Ancestry of Alden Spooner, late of Brooklyn, with record of his descendants to August 1909"; by Alden S. Huling

"Vital Records of Hardwick, Massachusetts to the year 1850"; anonymous

"History of Hardwick, Massachusetts: with a genealogical register"; by Lucius R. Paige

"Portrait and Biographical Album of Midland County, Michigan"; anonymous.

The Midland Sun and Midland Republican newspapers.

"Alden Biography" at http://www.alden.org/our_family/aldenbiography.htm



The Landing of the Pilgrims

On the Street Where They Lived

by Juliana Smith

I like to try to picture my ancestors in the settings in which they lived, but in eras and families where pictures are scarce, it can be difficult to imagine. I love browsing through old photographs anywhere I can find them and even in cases where I can't find an image of my ancestor's exact house, it's fun to see images of the neighborhoods where they lived, the churches or schools they attended, and local street scenes.

Last week, Paula's article about Google Street View showed how to view images of ancestral places of interest. This is great in cases where the houses or buildings still exist (and of course is limited to areas where the service is available), but for most of us, getting that glimpse of the houses and neighborhoods in which they lived will require a little more research.

Google It

Whenever I learn a place of origin for one of my ancestors in "the old country," the first thing I do is search for that town online. One of my ancestors is from Balbriggan. A search brought up the Balbriggan & District Historical Society website which has a few photographs as well as some historical information. When I switch over to Google's image search, even more photographs come up. While most are contemporary, I can definitely get a feel for the area, and I ran across several images of historic monuments. A similar search for another small Irish town turned up an image of the church where my second great-grandmother was baptized.

Look for websites of local historical societies, libraries, tourism agencies, and chambers of commerce. These sites often have sections on local history that are populated with historical photographs. Search for nearby landmarks, street names and addresses, churches, schools, parks, and any other institution that your ancestor may have used.

Ancestry.com

The collections of images at Ancestry are growing by leaps and bounds. Since July 2006, Ancestry has experienced a surge in user-contributed content and more than 5.5

million photos have been uploaded. Many of the submitters have generously chosen to make their trees--and accompanying photographs--publicly available. Using the Photos and Maps tab on the homepage, enter a town name and state in the keyword field and see what kind of images come up. I was just browsing through with various keywords and ran across this street scene from Tingewick, Buckinghamshire, England.

If you're lucky, you might even find a distant cousin has posted a photograph of an ancestral home. Here's a photograph of a house in Kokomo, Indiana, from around the turn of the century.

The Library of Congress collection has some really neat photographs too, and the Historical Postcard Collection has views from many locations. All are searchable through the same Photos and Maps tab on the homepage.

A search for "Tillary Street," where several of my Brooklyn ancestral families lived, turned up a photograph of Dr. James Tillary's House at 15 Tillary Street. My third great-grandmother lived at 47 Tillary when she died.

Tax Photographs

A couple weeks ago, I answered a question on the blog about the New York City Tax Photographs that are available through the Municipal Archives. Around 1940, a photograph was taken of every house in the five boroughs. The photographs aren't cheap; an 8"x10" will run \$30 plus shipping and handling, but for those who don't have an image of an ancestor's home, it is well worth the cost, and you can even order online.

Library of Congress

The American Memory Project at the Library of Congress website has some great collections of photographs and thirteen of these collections are categorized as "Cities and Towns." Browsing through the collection of photographs from the Detroit Publishing Co., I clicked on the category "Streets" and found nearly 1,800 photographs of street scenes from across the United States and other countries as well.

Other Photographic Sites

There are scores of websites that host photographs of various locations. Randall's

Lost New York City Collection displays photographs of nineteenth-century buildings that were destroyed in the 1970s, along with the addresses.

The Cleveland Memory Project showcases the Special Collections of the Cleveland State University Library. Among the photographs on this site, I found a picture of the high school my father attended.

The Denver Public Library's Western History and Genealogy Department has digitized more than 120,000 images from Colorado and other western states. There are some interesting photos from mining towns, like this stereograph of "Men and boys in suits or vests, and hats, pos[ing] in the street in Creede (formerly Jimtown) in Mineral County, Colorado." I also found a view looking down on the town of Leadville.

There are even photo archives geared specifically toward genealogists. Check out Dead Fred and if you don't find a photograph of your ancestor, try searching for his hometown.

In Your Mind's Eye

Some local histories will include illustrations, but even if they don't some are very detailed in their descriptions of the area they cover. The details they provide can help you to visualize the area and describe it in your family history.

Copyright Considerations

You do have to remember copyright laws if you're considering using the photographs, but many of the collections I've mentioned do have pages with information on getting permission to use the images. There's typically a small fee associated with it and you will have to credit the source, but most of the sites I've seen make it easy to do.

Reprinted from Ancestry.com's Weekly Journal, February 11, 2008. This is a newsletter that you can receive in your email that is full of tips . Visit Ancestry.com to subscribe.

Looking Back in Midland County

Taken From *The Midland Sun* October 21, 1898 p. 1

(This is a short article on James Lamay who was a Union Silver candidate for sheriff of Midland County.)

James E. Lamay first opened his eyes in the county of Oswego, New York, forty two years ago, and lived with his parents on a farm and obtained a district school education, until he attained the age of 21 years, at which time he came to this county, where he worked in the lumber woods for eleven winters and on his farm summers until seven years ago, when he was appointed deputy sheriff under Justus Thorington, in which capacity he served for two years, giving entire satisfaction, and through his efforts and watchfulness many a criminal was brought to justice. Was then elected marshal of Midland city for four years in succession, attending to the duties of the office with justice to all and partiality to none. In 1894 he was candidate for sheriff and received nearly 400 votes more than the Democratic state ticket. This year he was nominated unanimously, without any effort on his part, and is entitled to his full party vote in Midland county.

Mr. Lamay has elements of strength and popularity of no mean order, and is showing up mightily in the canvass, even his political opponents confessing that he is a stronger candidate than they thought. No one who knows him questions his capacity, no one doubts his integrity. He is energetic and obliging and a Democrat by inheritance and practice. In the township of Midland, where he resided previous to coming to the city, he was regarded as a public-spirited citizen, earnest and capable and since removing from there he has made a host of friends in the city. He is in touch with the masses, whose votes will give him the election, and he thoroughly sympathizes with the efforts of his party to bring about a greater degree of equality in the taxes paid by corporations and the citizens, on a fair and equitable basis. He has a wide acquaintance and large following in the townships and his activity and acceptability in the city are giving the opposition a good deal of concern. These opinions about Mr. Lamay have been gathered from those of all parties who know him best.

The Midland Sun Feb. 17, 1899 p. 5

City and County

Mrs. L. D. Griffin is quite ill.

The county house now has 18 inmates.

Supervisor McMullin of Averill was in the city Saturday.

Salt inspected at Midland for January was 2300 barrels.

Mrs. A. D. Salisbury arrived from Ann Arbor Saturday.

Miss Grace Brown of Manistee is visiting Midland friends.

Mrs. William Degraff Jr. returned the 9th from visiting her parents at Big Rapids.

There are no prisoners at the jail now but from one to five tramps ask for lodging nightly.

J. H. Anderson & Co. last Friday took 6500 pounds of dressed pork to Bay City at one load.

E H. Voight of Quincy, Ill., who has been the guest of Miss Anna Reardon the past week, returned to his home Wednesday.

In the case of the People vs. Amos and John Turney, charged with assault and battery upon Joseph Kebblebeck, the jury brought in a verdict of not guilty.

Byron Burch was in Lansing this week.

Born to Dr. and Mrs. McCallum Feb. 10, a 10 pound son.

The Rathbone Sisters gave a pedro party at castle hall this evening.

Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Ryan entertained a number of their friends Tuesday evening.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Bentley A. Major of Smith's Crossing, Monday, a daughter.

Miss Lee Bacon left Monday to accept a position as attendant at the Kalamazoo asylum.

A. J. Reed has so far recovered from his injuries that he is able to be down town on crutches.

Miss Clara Peterson returned Wednesday from a visit with friends at Saginaw and Bridgeport.

Farmers living south of the city have been granted the privilege of cutting ice from the C. F. Smith pond.

Mrs. Elihu Barnes of Midland township died Monday night of lung trouble. The funeral was held Thursday.

A. P. Erway is preparing to build a new house opposite the residence of Jas. O'Neil, Sr., in the

first ward.

The Lady Maccabees went out to Hubbard yesterday on the train and visited Mrs. John Reed. They report having a splendid time.

Mrs. R. B. Gotham of Larkin township died suddenly Friday, Feb. 10, of apoplexy. She had a slight attack of the same disease about three years ago.

Mr. Jones, who married Mrs. A. Stumm, niece of Mrs. Wm. Patrick, died at his home in Elkhart, Ind. Saturday and the funeral occurred Monday.

Was It Murder at Hubbard?

As a follow up to the news article contained in my last issue of the Pioneer Record, I was able to locate the following article in the August 25, 1899 issue of the Midland Republican.

NO MURDER AT HUBBARD.

Coroner McArdle Investigates — The Story of a Dead Girl was a Boy's Imagination— Too much Bugaboo Talk by the Auburn Man.

EDITOR REPUBLICAN:

Having seen by the Detroit papers that a crime had been committed near Hubbard in Midland County, and the dead body of a girl had been found in the woods with the head severed from the body, I considered it my duty as one of the coroners of Midland county to investigate this report. I found Mr. Runo, the father of the boy that stated the story. He informed me that he did not believe his son told the truth in regard to finding the body of the girl. I then went to Mr. Runo's farm two miles from Hubbard and examined the Runo boy, and he still claimed the story to be true, although contradicting himself on some points. He claimed one Mr. Langley from Auburn, Bay County, and his family also, saw the body of the girl and was with him. I went to the home of Mr. Langley, and himself and family informed me there was no truth in the boy's story. Remarks had been made by Mr. Langley to frighten the children from going far from the wagon, and some things thrown away by some other berry pickers, led the boy Runo to enlarge the story until it reached the Midland correspondent of the Free Press. The reader knows the rest.

E. McArdle.

Pioneer Record

Midland Genealogical Society
Grace A. Dow Memorial Library
1710 W. St. Andrews Drive
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Information about Midland Genealogical Society

The MGS meets on the 3rd Wednesday of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr. & May at 7:00 PM in the lounge of the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640. Visitors are always welcome. Watch the Midland Daily News or local Midland MCTV channel 5 for upcoming speakers, dates and times.

Membership dues are \$14.00 for single and \$17.50 for a couple and can be paid after July 1, but must be paid by Nov. 25, to continue receiving the Pioneer Record. Dues may be paid at any MGS meeting or may be sent to the Membership Chair, Midland Grace A. Dow Memorial Library, 1710 W. St. Andrews Dr., Midland, MI 48640.