



The

Four Drive

A Genealogy Newsletter



Volume IV, No 4

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Whole Number 23

Another Branch **The Chinnery Family & Early Amber Twp.**

James A. Chinnery

James A. Chinnery with his wife Lucy (Lambert) came to Mason County in the 1960's and purchased land in Amber Twp.

There were five children in the James Chinnery family.¹ Eli, Henry Keeble, John Anthony, Isaac, and Alfred. Eli, the oldest, was the father of Bert (Albert) Chinnery², who stayed on a farm in Amber all of his life. (John) Anthony went to live in Iowa.³ Isaac stayed in Mason County and was the father of John Henry Chinnery, Scottville merchant, etc. Alfred, another son, returned to Van Buren County to live.

A grandson of James, Charles Adelbert (Del) Chinnery was interviewed on couple of occasions. These interviews were published in the Ludington Daily News. Excerpts from these articles are included in this newsletter.

Adelbert (Del) Chinnery **Is Early County Settler⁴**

Adelbert (Del) Chinnery of 407 North James street who will be 90 years old next Dec. 4, is another of the early settlers of Mason county who lived through the lumber era in this country and participated in its activities.

¹ As reported in the article covering the interview of Adelbert Chinnery. Again no mention of the four daughters born in England as reported in Volume I of The Four Drive.

² Albert Chinnery and Maud (Margaret Thompson) were grandparents of your editor.

³ Information we have it was Nebraska and not Iowa. This was confirmed by probate court documents designating widow Sarah (Flora) as guardian of the children.

⁴ Extracted from an early article, believed to have been published in the Ludington Daily News, ca 1955 (est. from his age of 90)



Del Chinnery [photo by Alice Chinnery]

The Chinnery family prominent in Amber township since the Civil war stems from Mr. And Mrs. James Chinnery who, with their eldest son Eli, were the first[of the family] to come from Van Buren county to live along the north bank of Pere Marquette river. In 1867-8 Mr. And Mrs. Keeble⁵ Chinnery came with their son Del. The Chinnery family at one time owned 440 acres of land in that vicinity.

Important Means of Travel

The river was the important means of travel and James Chinnery made good use of this advantage. Although he did not own the rollaway known as Chinnery's rollaway, he let the mills use his land for that purpose. James and his older sons owned the "Amber", a flat-bottom boat upon which they transported supplies for the Ludington Boom Co., which had a large log storehouse on the Pere Marquette. The Amber was an open topped affair with room around the edge of the deck for the men to walk who propelled it with long poles. It would carry eight tons of goods. Jeff Higgins also had a boat on the river of 10 tons capacity. Del's father worked on the Chinnery boat. Del was not old enough to go on trips but he remembers the activity.

Mr. Chinnery paints a good word picture

⁵ Keeble, was born Henry Keeble Chinnery, and typically was known as "Keeb" or "Keeble". One census record recorded as "Cabel". We believe the name "Keeble" to be a family surname from his maternal ancestry, but as yet unconfirmed.

of the times when drivers with horses and sleighs would come in droves to the log headquarters on the river to get supplies for their individual camps. Wolves were plenteous and hungry and the men would travel together as far as possible for protection for it meant overnight camping each time. The men made camp by placing their sleighs in a large circle, the horses just inside and themselves around a huge bonfire in the center which they kept burning all night long. There were not many deer in those years because there was not forage for them in the thick timber. The wolves were vicious.

Del's parents sent him to Ludington to attend school, thinking of greater advantages for their only son. He was to stay with his mother's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Ebenezer Daily, who were in charge of the county house for Mason County's indigents. Two large buildings were erected just north of the "duck pond," east of South Madison Street and south of Ludington Avenue. One was used for the men inmates and the women were housed in the main building with the caretaker. Del attended the first central school at the corner of James street and Ludington avenue, but he was so homesick he couldn't study and was allowed to return home and finish his schooling at Rickey school in Amber.

Big Fire of 1881

Mr. Chinnery was 16 at the time of the big fire in 1881. A circus in town at the time had to reroute its parade. Several of the boys, including Del were hired to man the pumps to help fight the flames. But a dollar an hour was nothing compared to the excitement going on, and they all deserted.

When Del Chinnery reached the age of 24, he married Cora Purple, daughter of James Purple, also of Amber. They had one son Percy (Percival), born in 1890, who died in California in 1954. There are two granddaughters and seven great grandchildren living in Saginaw at the present time.⁶ Mrs. Chinnery died in 1935.

Chinnery Island

He (Del) told of Chinnery's Island, on Pere Marquette River formed in high water around a high spot, and which he believes does not exist [now] as an island.⁷ This island was east of the rollaway and was

⁶ 1955 at time of article.

⁷ I [your editor] can remember that sometime in the 40's as a teenager being on the river in that area and traveling around the island in a canoe with my father.

covered with ash and maple. Lumber, shingles and potato crates were manufactured there. Pere Marquette River was much wider and deeper then, he said.

EDITOR NOTE: My father continued paying the taxes on the land comprised by this island for many years after his father had been doing the same. In 1979⁸ this land was donated to the State of Michigan DNR and deeded to them as part of the Wild River program. Land description - All that part Gov't Lot 1, lying S. of N Channel of P.M. River - Sec 26 T18N R17W. 16.25A.

Charles Adelbert Chinnery

INTERVIEW⁹

By Alice Chinnery

Still active enough at 92 to drive his own car daily is **Charles Adelbert Chinnery**. Being an early pioneer of Amber township, and an employee of the Mason and Oceana Railroad from 1890 to 1896, he can recall many incidents in the development of Mason County.

He was born in 1865 in Van Buren county, and when he was two years old his father, H.K. Chinnery, moved the family to farm in Amber, south of Brookside Cemetery. That area was then heavily wooded with maples, beech, elm and ash.

When he started to Rickey School at five it was in session for only two months during the summer. His childhood recollections include watching his father and others build a riverboat, experiences when there were few roads and much travel by water.

A letter written to his aunt by his father in 1871 relates an account of a July fourth race on Pere Marquette River.¹⁰ "We haven't done anything with the Boat yet - only to run it the fourth of July on the River and had a big race with another river boat. Our boat was loaded very heavily with passengers, the other was light excepting the crew that run her, the name of the other, "The Arrow". We had one mile to run, "The Amber" being ten rods behind when the race began but passed "The Arrow" in about half of the distance, and came out about 10 rods ahead. All was excitement they threw their boat across the River to keep us from running by them. We struck her side and

⁸ Formal acceptance by the State of Michigan did not occur until October 9, 1981.

⁹ Interviewed and written November 23, 1957 as an assignment for a course of study then being pursued by Alice (nee Fitch) Chinnery. Subsequently published by the Ludington Daily News on Saturday November 30, 1957.

¹⁰ Editor Comment: How, I wonder about this reference. Was it an aunt on his mothers side or his fathers side. If father's side then it would be first reference to any of the four Chinnery sisters. [See The Four Drive, Volume 1, No. 1, page 3, "What Happened to the Chinnery Sisters?"]

made everything bound. The cry went up, "a boy killed", but the crews heeded it not - for all we knew was to win. And I have not seen such excitement before since being in the woods. In fact excitement and almost desperation seemed enthroned to away their irresistible septer over the contending parties. But allow me to say that the boy was not killed, but kicked because he was holding the boats together."

During his early life, Charles Chinnery worked on the river or in the lumber mills. "Amber was a bustling village with several stores, depot and a post office. "Keeb" Chinnery ran the Fairbanks Store and was postmaster at one time. After the railroad came through, Amber was a wooding station, where farmers hauled wood during the winter for 90 cents a cord¹¹. The main center of the village was known as Knox Corners, which was three-fourths mile from the station."

Through the years he has seen this village spring up out of the forest, and also decline into a rural community. The post office was discontinued in 1908, the depot became a flag station and finally no railroad passenger service was available.

Memories of life in Buttersville when it was an active lumbering community are also very vivid to him. Sixty-seven years ago¹² he started working on the M & O Railroad. "Wages, then, weren't what they are today. We worked for \$1.75 a day if we made four trips to Fern, but if we made six trips we'd draw \$2.25 a day. A "six trip" day began at 4 A.M. when we left Buttersville. Between breakfast and lunch we got in two more trips, and from noon to supper two trips were made. The sixth trip was made after supper. It was a rather long day, but it also meant extra pay.

"Winter work was somewhat different. When the railroad didn't run we worked in the woods, logging hardwood or cutting cedar in the swamps for one dollar a day. But from November 15 to May 15 we didn't receive any pay envelopes. Provisions could be charged at Butters' General Store against our wages. Accounts were balanced May 15, then we were paid the difference, if any."

According to Mr. Chinnery, most of the houses in Buttersville at that time belonged to Butters' Mill, and were occupied by workers. Some of these were built in units to accommodate several families.

" To get to Ludington we took one of the ferries, landing either at the foot of James Street or Ferry Street. The team ferry was like a scow, which was propelled along a cable. This cable was lowered, when ships came in, to let them pass through the channel. The "Mary Scott" was one of the ferries, I remember."

¹¹ Editor Note: I bet it was a full cord not the face cords we see today.

¹² The year 1890

From the time Charles Chinnery started railroading for the M & O he continued to be a railroad employee until 1936 when he retired. He became a switchman in 1895 for the Flint and Pere Marquette, and lived in Ludington until 1900. Then he was transferred to the Saginaw Division of the Pere Marquette Lines, and so moved to Saginaw.

" Mason County always had a strong appeal to me, so I came back here in 1945 to live. I've made my home for the last 12 years with Alfred Chinnery, a cousin, at 407 N. James Street."

Baseball is his prime interest. He never misses listening to a game played by his favorite team, the Tigers. He liked to join the north bound hunters, which he did until three years ago. Now he hunts his buck, memory, through the eyes of others as they relate their experiences when they return from the northwoods. I'll be 92 next week on December 4, and that's rather old to be tramping around in the woods."

THE FERRY

Until the October session of the board of supervisors in 1863, no one had stood responsible for ferry transportation across the mouth of the Pere Marquette river. Travel was increasing every year and some one had generally stood ready to carry travelers across by some means and charged what the traffic would bear. The board issued a license for the ferry to Wm. Farrell, who gave a bond to keep the necessary equipment and to carry teams and passengers across at the rates prescribed in the license, and to be ready at all times for such service.

The fees prescribed were:

Single person--5 cents

Person and horse--15 cents

Horse and vehicle--25 cents

Double team--35 cents

Animals--10 cents each

[Excerpt from article from The Mason County local history net.]

www.crosswinds.net/~dave1956/Wing002.htm

History of Rickey School Recalled¹³

Eighty-one years ago this fall there was considerable excitement and perhaps a little apprehension among the young folks of South Amber. The Reason? Rickey school was being built.

On May 29, 1870¹⁴. Charles W. Jones, clerk of the board of school inspectors of Amber township, issued a notice to James C. Flora, chairman of the board, to notify every legal voter of the district that on June 4, 1870 there would be a special meeting at the home of Henry B. Rickey for the election of school officers and any other business that came before the meeting.

At this meeting Valentine Parker was elected chairman and James C. Flora, clerk of the meeting. The election of the school officers resulted in Charles Hackert being elected moderator for three years, James C. Flora director for two years and John Schreiner assessor for one year.

George Martin offered a grant of land nine rods square in the northeast corner of his farm for a school site. The George Martin farm is now¹⁵ owned by Archie Conrad, and the farm of Mr. Rickey, east of the school is owned by Mrs. George Conrad. It was voted to accept this offer and Mr. Martin was paid \$12.50 for same. It also was voted to build a log school house, but at the first annual school meeting held at the home of Mr. Rickey on September 5, 1870, thnis was cancelled and members voted to build a frame building 24 feet by 30 feet, instead. On September 15 the job of building the schoolhouse was let to Lewis Barton for \$97. The lumber, 6178 feet was purchased from James C. Flora for \$65.

The first term of school in the new school began in January 1871 with James C. Flora as teacher. The school was heated by a large box stove located in the center of the room and wood was furnished at the rate of one quarter of a cord per scholar. The next year this was increased to one half cord per scholar.

At the first term of school there were 26 pupils who were James and Sarah Turner, Sabina, Ernest and Delbert Chinnery, Christ Tetsloff, Jenny Monroe, Louisa, Katie, Minnie, John and Willie Schreiner, John, William, Elizabeth and Rosa Hackert, Charles E. Bailey, George Huber, Naomi, Flora, Eva, and Velley Penny, Carrie, Elmer, Clifton and Rosa Cole and Charles Huber. As far as can be learned Delbert Chinnery is the only of these 26 pupils still living.

The winter term of school lasted three months and the summer term two months began

¹³ Information in this article obtained from a newspaper clipping date and publication source unknown.

¹⁴ On the basis of this date and the referenced 81 years ago we ascertain that this article was published in 1851.

¹⁵ Year 1951.

on May 29, 1871, with Rebecca Ash as teacher. In 1882 there were several new pupils. In 1882 there were several new pupils one of whom was Floyd Slaughter who is still living.

It is not clear who taught in 1872, but as near as can be learned from the records, it was Judson E. Wright and Julia Gage. L.E. Hawley taught in 1873-74, Margaret McDonald and Eva Hull in 1875, George Reader in 1875, James C. Flora in 1877, Flora Rice in 1878, Mary Morton in 1879-80-81, H.L. Day and Ella Callahan in 1882.

In the fall of 1875, a whooping cough epidemic caused the winter term to be postponed for a month but before the month was up it was again postponed until March 20.

In 1900 a woodshed and two toilets were built at the rear of the school building and the school was sided, painted inside and out and papered. A listing of teachers since 1900 was included. [EDITOR NOTE: Of interest may be that one of the teachers was Rhea Welte. Miss Welte students include Alfred Chinnery, father of Donald Chinnery. Alfred and his brother Joel attend this school. Joel subsequently married Claribel Shrink daughter of Rhea Shrink nee Welte.]

In 1951, at the time this original article was written, Mrs Ada Thompson was the teacher with 19 pupils.

When the school was built there were two doors in front, one at the east and one at the west but later an entry was added with a door in the center, but the two doors into the school proper remained. In the early days the pupils faced the north and the teacher was at the north end but about 35 years ago [ca 1916], the school was changed around and the teacher's desk is at the . Today the school has electric lights a drinking fountain, an automatic electric pump, inside toilets and an oil heater.

Over the years The Rickey School House was used for Sunday church services and funerals. We have several obituaries indicating that funeral services were held at Rickey School [i.e. James Chinnery and Keeble Chinnery].

Rickey Cemetery

The Ludington Daily News had an article Feb 27, 1953 about Amber. Notes made include – The Rickey Cemetery was bought in 1871 for \$30.00. A committee of 3 was appointed to layout lots. They were Valentine Parker, W.A. Bailey and Eli Chinnery. The River road was laid out by Charles Parker, Eli Chinnery and John Hertz. H.K. Chinnery came to Amber and was one of the early teachers at Rickey School. He was b. 1840 in England and died in 1886. Keeble as he was known was a brother to John Anthony Chinnery and father of Charles Adelbert Chinnery.

The following URL gives a listing of all the burials in Rickey Cemetery, Amber Township,

Mason County, MI.

www.crosswinds.net/~dave1956/cemetery/cemrickey.htm
There are other cemeteries listed on the same website if you are interested to explore further. Especially useful is a composite index of all names in the individual cemetery listings. If you think a family member is buried in Mason County but are not sure of the local cemetery used for the burial use the composite index.

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John Anthony Chinnery

John Anthony Chinnery, the youngest son of James and Lucy. We have previously reviewed what information we had regarding John, aka Anthony, his wife Sarah and their family¹⁶. We recently received an email from Sue Peterson who is descended from the Flora Family. We have been exchanging information, some of which we will impart herein.

John Anthony Chinnery

b. 1845 Canada, West

d. Abt 1845 in NE

m. Sarah J. Flora 4 Jan 1868

[This was the second marriage recorded in Mason County, following inception of the local recording of vital statistics.¹⁷]

Children of John and Sarah surname CHINNERY

1. Pauline M.¹⁸ (Plina) b. 29 Nov. 1868

2. James A. b. 14 Aug 1870

3. Lucy B. b. 14 May 1874

4. Chrisa D. b. 22 Oct 1875

5. Albert D. b. 11 Aug 1877

6. Addie L. b. Feb 1879

(d. 8 Apr 1879; bur. Rickey)

7. Willie b. Abt Mar 1884 NE

The first 6 children were born in Amber township, Mason county, Michigan. Willie was born in Nebraska and we would surmise his first name was William. The death of John and birth information of Willie was obtained from probate court records Liber 19/#193 and liber 3/#59. Sarah remarried 20 November 1886 (liber 2/#32) to William Cowin.

Daughter Lucy married Byron Hazzard, 27 November 1890 in Amber Township (Liber 3/#38). They had one daughter Lisa. Byron died shortly after and Lucy remarried William White.

Except as noted above we have not found any information as to what happened to the children. Upon Sarah's marriage to Cowin, did he adopt the children and their surname changed to Cowin?

¹⁶ The Four Drive, Volume I, Number 2, page 3

¹⁷ Michigan counties were to begin local recording of vital records beginning July 1867. Specific standards for doing so did not occur until later, so during your research in various counties you might find the presentation of similar information in different formats.

¹⁸ We believe the "M" to be Mary as the 1870 census listed a daughter Mary.

Recently we received an e-mail from Sue Peterson who is researching the Flora family. Sarah J. Flora is believed to be a sibling of Sue's ancestors. Some of the information and facts received from Sue:

The parents of Sarah were James C. Flora and Paulina Briggs. [NOTE: The first daughter of John and Sarah was named Paulina – after the maternal grandmother. See naming conventions in The Four Drive Volume IV, Number 3]. Paulina and James were married in Henderson County, Indiana on May 18, 1852.

A James C. Chinnery died at age 26 on 29 March 1893. We are not sure whether this is the son of John and Sarah, that we have listed as James A. Chinnery born in 1870.

Future Research

- 1 Deathplace and date for father John Anthony Chinnery?
- 2 What happened to the children after Sarah's marriage to William Cowin?
- 3 Were there any children by Sarah and William?
- 4 Descendants of daughter Lucy.
- 5 Death information regarding Lucy.
- 6

Confirmation of Facts

Genealogists usually spend considerable discussion as to how much confirmation of information is required to validate your data. This review pertaining to my great grandmother is a good case in point.

Rebecca L. Thompson

My paternal grandmother Margaret Thompson was married to my grandfather Albert H. Chinnery. Margaret's mother was Rebecca Thompson nee Watts. Rebecca died circa 1877 when Margaret was a young girl. Margaret was born September 10, 1875 in Chicago, Cook County, IL. Rebecca was born Rebecca Watts: Married to Alfred Thompson in 1869.

[This information obtained from grandfather Chinnery and my mother Alice Chinnery.] Continuing our research we found the following additional information.

Civil registration (ref SLC-33) - Birth

Found 2nd quarter 1842 at Colchester Essex Vol. X11/74. Certified Copy of birth certificate BXB Y 040079 Sep 17, 1996, for a girl named Rebecca born 9th of June 1842. Parish of St James, 3rd Ward of Colchester, Essex Co, England.

father Robert Watts

mother Mary Watts nee Ward

address = Barrack St, St James.

Census Information

Census 1860 Chicago census 8th Ward #021
LDS#803168.¹⁹ Rebecca Thompson age 2? F
?maker \$600 bp England (red-37)

Census 1870 Chicago Census 10th WD
Chciago, Series 593/ Roll 205. Page 502. LDS
film #545704

**Rebecca Thompson age 28 f w Domestic
Servant bp England.**

(ref:SLC-26)

Death Information

We know from family history that
Margaret's mother died when she (Margaret)
was a young girl. Our research located the
following information regarding the death of a
Rebecca L. Thompson.

Death 1877 Sam Fink Index of Newspaper
Deaths and Marriages film #1321939 (ref:SLC-
25)

Rebecca L. Thompson June 7, 1877 Chicago
Times and Chicago Tribune.

LDS#1295975 Circuit Court Deaths in
Chicago E 6 6 77 # 251 30 address 42 10th
[Ref-Red-47] Where date is 6 Jun 1877.

The June 7 in the Fink index probably refers
to date of publication of obituary, whereas
actual death was Jun 6 , 1877.

Using the above death information as a
reference I solicited photocopies of the
obituaries published in the paper. My goal
hopefully was to find information designating
the survivors. But, alas this did not occur as
obituaries of that period are quite brief.

Obituary

Chicago Times (June 7, 1877, pg3, col. 6)

On the morning of June 6, at her late
residence, No. 41 18th Street., REBECCA L., wife
of John Q. Thompson, in her 40th year . Funeral
from Grace Church at 10:30 Saturday morning.

Chicago Tribune (June 7, 1877, p. 8, c 6)

THOMPSON - On the morning of June 6, at
her late residence, 41 Eighteenth St., Rebecca L,
wife of John Q. Thompson, in her 40th year.

Analyzing the Data

If she is listed in the 1860
census as Thompson, than the marriage
date of 1869 would be wrong.
Possibly married in 1859. Further
more, the census entry lists age as
2x something. In 1860 our Rebecca
would have been age 18. The 1870

¹⁹ Portions of the film entry unreadable.

Census entry conforms more closely to
the information we have for our
Rebecca. We are referring here to
census records for Chicago Illinois.
Here we are informed she was age 28,
this agreeing with her birth date of
1842. Now read the following news
flash.

News Flash

While putting this issue of The
Four Drive together, I was exploring
the internet with some of the URL's I
have reported in this issue. One of
them was for the 1870 Census of
Michigan. Just to see what I might
find I entered the name of Alfred
Thompson, to see what the search
might come up with. I found four
entries for Alfred Thompson. One of
them resided in Allegan County,
Saugatuck. Knowing that Saugatuck
was a port for Lake Michigan and that
our Alfred Thompson was a sea
captain, I chose this one.

The entry for Alfred and family
provided the following information.
Thompson, Alfred - age 30, married
and a sailor

..... Rebecca - age 23 or 28 (difficult
to read), married

occ. Keeping House bp. England

..... Mary - age 1 bp Illinois

The birthplace for Alfred was
listed as New Jersey, while Rebecca's
as England. For Rebecca there was
further indication that her parents
were foreign born. Mary's showed her
mother as being foreign born. The
birth place for Alfred is different
then what we have been led to
believe, so this waves a red flag in
need of further confirmation.

Comments:

Age shown above for Alfred agrees
with known birthdate of 1840. Our
Rebecca was born in England the same
as this one. The daughter, named
Mary, is unknown to us per previous
research.

Grandmother Margaret Thompson was
born in Chicago Illinois. Knowing
this we have in the past concentrated
our family research efforts in Cook
County, Illinois. This research has
been hampered by the loss of records

during the Chicago fire of the 1870's. The information we have is Margaret (b. 1875) had two siblings, Clara (b. 1870) and Ella (b. 1872)

But, now we have a problem we have two census records showing a Rebecca Thompson, one in Illinois and another in Michigan. While the birthdate seems to be the same (1842), we definitely have a conflict of information.

Conclusion:

Never overlook possible alternate sources of information. Remember too, that while we don't like negative answers, sometimes we need them to highlight conflicts in our data.

What Next – Future Research

Whenever we find and confirm some facts, we raise additional questions or we have leads to other information. As a consequence we develop a list of possible research. While this list relates to my ancestors, you can do the same thing from the information you currently have from your genealogy. Make a list of what you know and then generate a list for future research.

- 1 What happened to the Children and descendants of John and Sarah(Flora) Chinnery?
- 2 Continue to pursue Rebecca Thompson nee Watts in the Chicago area.
- 3 Obtain and early map of Chicago and determine location of wards as referenced in census records and the ward in which the streets referenced in the death notices lie.
- 4 Research the Robert Watts in Chicago census as possible parents of Rebecca Watts
- 5 Checkout the burial records of Greenwood Cemetery in North Chicago, believed to burial place of Alfred Thompson.
- 6 Pursue the leads provided by the census information in previous paragraphs.

SURFING THE INTERNET

Where have you been surfing?
Have you found any exciting sites?

Our readership interested in Mason County should make note of the following sites. All of the following addresses (URLs) should be prefixed with http://. NOTE though that most browsers will automatically add http://

- 1 WWW. thepeterson.homepage.com/genealogy.html
- 2 Mason County local history net
www. crosswinds.net/~dave1956/
- 3 Ludington Michigan
www. ludingtonmichigan.net/
- 4 Census research for 1870
envoy.libofmich.lib.mi.us/1870_census/Search.asp
- 5
www.crosswinds.net/~dave1956/cemetery/cemrickey.htm

FUTURE ISSUES

Your editor is interested in the following subjects for future issues.

- 6 Informative articles relating to your family. The specific information regarding the "begots" may not be of interest to the majority of our readership, the research techniques used to obtain the facts would be. Recently we have featured Dixon, Stock, and Chinnery as well as families on our common ancestral trees such as Lano and Fudge.

HOW SCOTTVILLE CAME TO BE

by Beatrice O'Hearn

[provided by the Mason County Public Library]
[Excerpted from web page by Dave Peterson -
www. crosswinds.net/~dave1956/]

Attracted by the fine lumber in the dense virgin forests that covered this territory and the excellent agricultural land for raising grain and fruit, the first white settler to receive a land title and settle here permanently was Harry Melson, in 1875.

Since about 1805 there were a great number of Indians, fur traders, hunters, trappers and fishermen who lived around this district, and also a very few white men who were granted title to land in 1870. They did not all stay to "prove it up" as the expression goes.

As yet there had been no timber felled for use in lumbering and no roads were built. There was just a clearing, cultivated in a primitive manner here and there by the Indians. In those days Indians living in this district had to make the most of its natural resources and made good use of the Pere Marquette river which they named **Not-a-pe-ko-gan**, meaning "a river with heads on sticks". Tradition has it that this name was given following the extermination of a tribe of Indians by the Pottowattomies from the south.

[--more – see webpage]

The reader desiring additional information on--(

Historic NOT-A-PE-KA-GON

By Russell F. Anderson printed 1933

Lakeside Printers-Ludington Michigan

www.crosswinds.net/~dave1956/Anderson01.html

www.crosswinds.net/~dave1956/Anderson02.html

The FOUR DRIVE, a genealogy newsletter brought to you for promoting genealogy of our ancestors and their descendants.

Need copies of any of the information referenced? Contact the editor or the individual shown.

What about Family Group Sheets? Editor is most happy to provide what we have available upon request. GEDCOM files can also be provided. Your editor also accumulates as much information as he can concerning siblings. Family group sheets and information in many cases are also available. Photocopying cost and postage appreciated.

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