

ETOSKEY  
AND  
BAY VIEW  
IN  
YE OLDEN  
DAYS



## FOREWORD

Cities, like people, have personalities, and like people, these personalities are developed through the years, little by little, through the accumulation of incidents—of joys sorrows, toils and ambitions.

Petoskey, the city of the Million Dollar Sunsets, has an individual personality which it shows to those who sojourn therein.

As one who is interested in this personality, I have assembled facts and incidents relating to the early history of Petoskey and surrounding territory for those kindred spirits who look below the surface and appreciate the years of history that go into the making of a personality.

In my search for the material of this history, all of which is based on facts, I am deeply indebted to the following persons—Mrs. Abbie Rose Bathrick, Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Foster, Mrs. Elizabeth Oakley Chrysler, Mrs. Hattie Rose Lawton, Mrs. John G. Hill, Mrs. Ethel Rowan Fasquelle, Miss Frances Pailthorp, William Jarman, H. Burr Lee, Amos Henika, C. J. Pailthorp, Walter Chrysler, W. B. Lawton, David Hastings, Father Eugene and a host of others who have contributed directly or indirectly in the making of this booklet.

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## The Region's First Inhabitants

More than 300 years ago the shores of Little Traverse Bay and Lake Michigan were lined with wigwams where today beautiful summer homes stand.

Just think for a moment. How many names of cities and villages in northern Michigan do you know that are of Indian origin? They will stand forever as monuments to a race of people who struggled, fought, and lived before the coming of the white man.

One of the reminders is the foundation of the first permanent mission on the Lower Peninsula which was built sometime prior to 1695. This foundation still stands, deeply buried in the sand about a mile south of the present Catholic church at Middle Village.

There are many council trees left as landmarks. One is a large tree at Talbot Heights near Bliss Farm, where many councils were held in ancient times. One of the largest Indian gatherings in history took place there in 1787 when twenty tribes were represented.

Another noted meeting place of the Indians is located near the Green Sky church just east of Charlevoix. These grounds were the meeting place for the Indians in the Traverse region for many hundreds of years. These council trees, originally thirty in number, were planted by chiefs of the various tribes, as a pledge that as long as they grew and bore leaves, the tribes would remain at peace. To save them from destruction by the white man in search of straight trees for lumber, each tree was bent to the ground and tied with basswood thongs. Under these trees the Indian chiefs held councils, by the light of birch-bark torches placed in the bend of each tree. As a reminder to the Indians that these council grounds must be kept sacred, a knife was thrust into the trunk of a huge beech tree nearby and the tree gradually concealed it, during the years of its growth. It is to be regretted that this beech has been cut by some one ignorant of its meaning.

Petoskey was the meeting place for the chiefs of many years ago, and on the corner of Mitchell street and Wachtel avenue, stands a vine-covered tree trunk beneath which the Indians held council, in the years when this city was an Indian trading post. Not much is known of the real history of this tree. In the early days in the Village of Petoskey, peaceful groups of Indians were often seen sitting in the shade of the Council Tree, their mouths full of moistened porcupine quills patiently making and ornamenting boxes and baskets to sell for a trifle to the white folks. Here also much trading was done. The Indians would trade blackberries brought from Middle Village and whitefish and trout from the bay for a loaf of "quashagon," meaning bread.

After the building of a church near Middle Village in 1695, there was a time when the Indians were driven out of Michigan by the powerful Iroquois tribes from the east. Most of them settled in Wisconsin. Later on they returned.

At one time the state of Michigan was owned by three tribes of Indians. The Ottawas, who lived in Canada, near the Ottawa River, were driven westward by the Iroquois of New York and came to Sault Ste. Marie. Here they met the Chippewas and later these two tribes met the Potowattamies. Having the same customs and manners and being of a friendly nature, these three tribes formed a strong alliance, calling themselves the "Three Brothers." By mutual consent the state was divided into three parts, the Chippewas taking the Upper Peninsula, the Potowattamies the part south of the Grand River and the Ottawas, the islands and territory between the Upper Peninsula and Grand River.

Besides the Indians belonging to the "Three Brothers" there were a few Indians living in L'Arbre Croche territory who belonged to the Huron tribe, and a small tribe of Mush-quah-tas, who many years before had been brought here as captives by the Ottawas after a war-like expedition in the west. The Mush-quah-tas, who were of Algonquin stock, were connected with the Underground Indians, so named because of



CATHOLIC MISSION CHURCH

their custom of digging pits in the ground for dwellings. They were brave, intelligent, peaceful and industrious and made excellent counsellors. The captors often intermarried with their captives and the descendants of the latter in many cases were closely related to the royal families of the Ottawas. Some of the most noted Ottawa chiefs descended from the Underground Indians.

The Mush-quah-tas seldom went on the warpath and one day while enjoying the peaceful scenes around them, the Ottawas returned home from an unsuccessful warlike expedition and the young folks of the Mush-quah-tas jeered and laughed at them for losing their conquest. That was too much for the Ottawas and one night soon after, they took the Mush-quah-tas by surprise and massacred all but one young man who managed to escape. Later they killed him too.

Thus the history of Emmet County, prior to the coming of the white man, centers around the life of the Ottawa Indians. The northern part of the county, between Harbor Springs and Mackinaw City, was called "L'Abre Crochet" and was once the center of missionary operations extending over a wide territory and also the site of many a bloody battle.

Most of the early missionaries were Catholic priests who taught their religion, also French and English and many times organized a school in connection with the church.

In 1742 St. Ignasius, a Jesuit missionary built a church at "Waw-gonaw-ki-sa" which means the "Crooked Tree." This village, the largest one in the region of the Great Lakes, was named for a tall crooked pine tree overhanging a high bluff which could be seen for many miles by occupants of approaching canoes. This tree was near what is now called Middle Village. Father Dablan built a mission at Mackinaw City in 1769 and in 1829 a mission was established in Harbor Springs by P. Jean De Jean. In 1832 Father Baraga built a church out of bark on the shore at Cross Village. In 1847 this village had a resident priest and in 1855 Father Weicamp came and established a convent and church. Another mission was established in 1832 at Porcupine Ridge which is just south of Bay Shore. It was called St. Paul and was administered by Father Baraga.



CHIEF PETOSKEY AND TWO SONS

In 1836 the general government entered into a treaty with the Chippewas and Ottawas, by the terms of which the lands of this portion of the state were to be held for twenty years as a reservation for the Indians, at the expiration of which time they were to move west of the Mississippi. But fourteen years later the Indians, desiring to adopt the habits of civilization, delegated A. J. Blackbird of Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) with one of his people to go to Washington to ask permission so to do while they retained the privileges of their reservation according to the treaty.

This request out of justice and duty was granted in 1851 and four years later another treaty was entered into, by which the time for the reservation was extended for a term of years and the Indians were allowed, in lieu of lands they were to have received across the Mississippi, to select 40 acres for each single man 20 years of age and 80 acres for each man with a family. Again in 1872 by an act of Congress, those Indians who had become of age since the last treaty, were allowed to select land, while the lands were also opened to them for homestead entry. In 1875 the reservation was opened to everybody under the homestead law. Orphans were also granted a parcel of land. Annually the Indians were paid a sum of money by the government, but because of unscrupulous white traders who always appeared on the scene at the time of the payments, and land sharks, many of the Indians lost most of their money and property.

The chief occupations of the Indian men were to hunt and fish, and make weapons and pipes. The women wove beautiful baskets and bags and tended the gardens. They also made ornamental mats in colors from rushes and the bark of slippery elm.

There were many interesting customs practised by the Indians in the early days. One of them was their method of taking care of the dead. Whenever one of their nationality passed away, a wooden frame called a bier was built. This was covered

with a white cloth which hung to the floor and on this the corpse was laid. A canopy made of five or six strips of calico was fastened to the ceiling in several loops right over the corpse. The wreath for the head was made of a branch wound with white cloth with paper flowers of various colors fastened to the branch. The dress which looked very much like all-over embroidery, was made of white cloth from which fancy patterns had been cut. Usually new beaded moccasins were used. The coffin was handmade of pine boards with black cloth tacked on the outside. The inside was lined with white cloth cut like the dress and tacked on with gold headed tacks. Sometimes the two nights that the corpse remained in the house, a "wake" was held. In the early evening the people would gather in the home and would alternately pray and sing funeral chants all night long. The day of the funeral the body would be taken to the church on a two-wheeled cart drawn by an Indian pony, the mourners following on foot. The casket was wrapped in a large mat of sweet grasses or rushes. After the service at the church, a procession was formed and all sang the funeral chants all the way to the cemetery, where the grave had been decorated by other beautiful colored mats.

Around 1780 there was an Indian family living about seven miles north of Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) that had much to do with the history of Petoskey. The father's name was Antoine Care or Nee-i-too-shing, meaning Early Dawn, and the mother was a daughter of an Indian chief. This family, as was the custom of their tribe, spent the summers in this north country but in the winter moved south to hunt and trap and to escape the cold and snow. It was during the winter of 1787 that this family made their usual pilgrimage south and had started on their return trip well laden with skins and game, that they camped at the mouth of the Manistee River. Here a little papoose came to brighten their home. As Nee-i-too-shing put back the deer-skin door of his wigwam and looked up at the morning sky, he saw bright shafts of sunlight shoot up like streaks of flame lighting the eastern woods. Just then the first cry of his new born came to his ears and he named the little papoose Pe-to-se-gah which means "The Rising Sun."

At the age of 22, Pe-to-se-gah married the daughter of a near neighbor, Ke-way-ke-ba-wi-ka. Fourteen children came to this home, some of their names being Robert, David, Mary, Louis, Basil, Mitchell, Elizabeth, Frank, Peter, Enos and William. Many of them were given college educations.

During the work of the missionaries in the L'Abre Crochet region, they gave Pe-to-se-gah the surname of Neyas and persuaded him that Neyas was an abbreviation of Ignatius, thus he became known as Ignatius Pe-to-se-gah. Many years later when a village was to be named in honor of him, it assumed a corruption of his last name, "Petoskey."

In 1830 Pe-to-se-gah and his children moved to the south shore of Little Traverse Bay, or what is now the site of Petoskey. His wife did not come at that time but remained with her family near Harbor Springs. Some years later she joined the family at their residence at 116 W. Lake Street. Many years later they built a home where the La Crosse apartments are now located. The house is still standing but has been moved to 203 W. Mitchell Street. After the settlement of Petoskey, several of the sons operated stores. The whole family had the respect of the community. Mrs. Pe-to-se-gah died in April 1881 and some years later she was followed by Ignatius Pe-to-se-gah, the centennarian.

## Emmet And Charlevoix Counties

Emmet County had its origin in the counties of Tonedagana and Kishkonko, which were two of the original divisions of northern Michigan, made in 1840. Three years later these names were changed to Emmet and Charlevoix, the former in honor of Robert Emmet, an eloquent Irish patriot, and the latter in honor of Pierre Francois Charlevoix, one of the early French explorers and missionaries. Ten years later or in 1853, when James J. Sprang of Beaver Island, the Mormon leader, was representative in the legislature, he had an act passed which united the counties of Charlevoix and Emmet under the title of Emmet. For two years St. James, on Beaver Island, was the county seat of Emmet County and boasted the only post office in said county. Then King Strang's control of Emmet County was broken and in 1869 Charlevoix County was organized as a separate county.

## Andrew Porter's Mission School

The Indian population in this territory was increased in 1851 by the arrival of several families from Old Mission, where Rev. P. Dougherty had been laboring. Soon a request was made to Rev. Dougherty for the establishment of a mission school in Muhguh Sebing, the Indian name for what is now Petoskey. During the winter of 1851-1852 Rev. Dougherty made a visit to Muhguh Sebing or Bear Creek and made

such a favorable report to the Presbyterian Board of Missions that a teacher by the name of Andrew Porter was sent here.

Mr. Porter left his home in Pennsylvania in May, 1852, and about a month later arrived at Bear Creek. The trip from Mackinac Island was made on Captain Kirtland's vessel, "The Eliza Caroline." He was cordially received by the head man, Daniel Wells (Wa-ke-we-nah) who offered the party a place to stay until the necessary buildings could be erected. The lumber had already been shipped by boat from Traverse City by Rev. Dougherty, and had been piled on the shore. After some exploring, a site on a high land west of Bear River (river) and about a mile from the shore, was selected for the mission. How to get the lumber to the site was a problem that caused much anxiety, for the only domestic animal in the settlement was a pony and the only vehicle was a cart. The road, which had recently been cut through the forest by the Indians, was too rough and uneven for a cargo of any kind. The difficulty was soon relieved for word was received that the Indians of Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) would be over here on a certain day to help. On that day seventy-five Indians, bringing seven ponies and carts, gathered on the beach ready for work. The ponies did well but more than half the lumber was carried on the shoulders of the men.

When the buildings were completed, an industrial school was started for the Indians in the simple elementary branches and in agricultural pursuits.

That fall Mr. Porter organized a Sunday School and social prayer meetings were established and religious work fully inaugurated. Mr. Porter was not a preacher, so occasionally Rev. Dougherty visited the mission and preached by means of an interpreter, conducted communion services and administered baptisms.

Rev. H. W. Guthrie, of Chillicothe, Ohio, was appointed by the Presbyterian Board of Missions as missionary to Bear Creek and Middle Village in 1855. The next year a church called the Bear Creek Presbyterian Church, was organized with sixteen members. In two years there were twenty-five members.



MISSION SCHOOL

his mother and sister alternately carried him three-fourths of a mile to school every day on their shoulders.

During Mr. Porter's residence here, he acted as postmaster for this territory and kept the mail in boxes which were labelled "mail going south," "mail going north," etc. At first the mail was carried by Indians on foot, then by Indians on horseback. These boxes are still intact in this Mission Home.

Mr. Porter won the respect of the Indians from the very first day and was loved



ANDREW PORTER

by all of them. Much was accomplished even though at times it seemed there were many things to hinder, such as the necessity for a long vacation during sugar-making time when Bear Creek was quite deserted. In planting time the attendance was small! During the proper season for peeling bark, collecting rushes for mats, or strawberry, raspberry or huckleberry picking time, the Indians would leave by boat loads, taking their children with them.

About 1871 the government funds set apart by treaty for the profit of the Indians being exhausted, and the Presbyterian board finding their funds depleted, the mission was discontinued. The property was rented to Mr. Nathan Jarman and in 1875 Mr. Porter went back to his home in Pennsylvania, later returning to pass his declining years here and finally to be laid to rest in the cemetery near the mission home.

## The Ingalls Family

The second white family to come here was Hazen Ingalls and his wife and children, who came for the purpose of making a home and to apply his trade to local industry. They came from Jefferson County, New York, to Leelanaw County in 1859 and from then until 1866 they lived about four miles from Northport. In the spring of 1866 the family moved to Bear Creek and Mr. Ingalls purchased the water power and grist and saw mill, which had been built by Harvey Porter, brother of Andrew Porter, as a government project in 1862. This mill was an old fashioned stone mill and was located where the Mitchell Dam now stands. He also engaged in farming.

Their home, built by an Indian was located on the corner of Ingalls Avenue, and Charlevoix Avenue, and nearby the first store building to be erected on the south side of Little Traverse Bay, was built for a trading post for the Indians. Later he built a dock at the foot of Ingalls Avenue and shipped wood purchased from the Indians to various places.

There were thirteen children in the family, some of their names were Hibbard, Richard, Liberty, Hazen, Jr., Byron, John, Lydia, Jackson and Libby. The boys hunted and trapped. Jackson Ingalls, the oldest son, remained here the rest of his life.

## The Jarman Family

So many glowing reports of this northern region were pictured to four related families living in Ohio, by a relative who had spent some time near Pine Lake, that all decided to leave their farms for northern Michigan. In 1866 Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Jarman and family and the latter's father and mother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. James Bartlett and daughter, Mary, with two other families, came to northern Michigan and settled on the shore of Pine Lake, near Old's Spring and Whiting Park. Miss Mary Bartlett secured a position as teacher in Andrew Porter's Mission School and soon the families of Porters, Jarman and Bartlett's became well acquainted. James Bartlett was a cobbler and the only one for miles around, so at various times Mr. Porter asked him to come to the mission to ply his trade.

In the spring of 1873, Mr. Porter asked Mr. Jarman to take over the running of the mission farm, and in March of that year they moved to Bear Creek where they remained until the fall of '74. Then they moved back to Pine Lake for the winter. The winter was long and severe, and Nathan Jarman decided the next spring to take his family back to Ohio. Everything was packed ready to go when Mr. Porter pleaded with Mr. Jarman to take over the Mission Farm again, for he wished to return to Pennsylvania. Mr. Jarman decided to stay and rented the farm for three years and many years later (1899) purchased it.

There were four children in the Jarman family—Sarah, William, David and Eva. Mr. William Jarman and his sister, Mrs. Eva Nichols, still own the Mission home and school at 617 Porter Street.

Mr. William Jarman has told many interesting things about the Mission Farm and buildings. There were four buildings, the home, school, smoke house and barn. There was a living room, dining room, kitchen and office down stairs, and four bedrooms and a hall upstairs in the home. The sills in the home were made of red beech and were hewn and the floor was made of matched boards all sawed and matched by hand. Mr. Jarman said that Andrew Porter had some knowledge of drugs and kept a supply on hand and that he sometimes had to practice dentistry, using a turn-key for extracting teeth.

There is an Indian cemetery just south of the school house which was used from 1852 until 1873, the last body being placed in there the spring the Jarman family came to Bear Creek.

Mitchell La Croix carried the mail on foot and Joseph Waukazoo was the interpreter for the Indians during the summer of 1873.

One incident told by Mr. Jarman is about the time his father took him and

several Indian boys, one named Paul Kata, to "Beckett's Circus," the very first circus in Petoskey which came in by boat the summer of 1876. The parade consisted of a band wagon and four horses and the performance was held on the southeast corner of Petoskey and Lake Streets. Of course, the boys were enthusiastic about the trapeze performers and the next day tried out many of the stunts in a barn. Paul Kata told the boys that his father said, that any boy who wanted to be supple enough to perform must begin when young to rub his body with angle-worm oil, and to get that oil they should dig some angle-worms, put them in a bottle and hang the bottle in the sun. This old Indian superstition was followed but no oil appeared in the bottle. Then Paul told them it would work just as well if the boys would use live angle-worms. Even this advice was followed but none of the boys ever became performers.

There was an old Indian couple, David and Jane Menonequet, who lived near the Jarman spring, that Mr. Jarman said he would never forget. They were really the outstanding Indians around this territory. He was well built, well poised and had a charming personality while she was queenly. They were regular attendants at the Presbyterian church. Mr. Menonequet presented a picture never to be forgotten when attired to attend church meetings or social gatherings. He wore a white shirt, a swallow tail coat, a pair of black trousers which were too long and a pair of moccasins. He was so proud of his first white shirt, which had been given to him, that he wanted to let everyone see all of it so did not tuck the tails of the shirt into his trousers for the first few times he wore it.

## H. O. Rose

The next settlers to arrive were H. O. Rose, and two brothers, Dr. William Little and R. H. Little who came by boat from Traverse City in June, 1873. With the coming of these three men, the history of Petoskey east of Bear River begins.

H. O. Rose and a friend had been pioneer business men in the Traverse region nearly 20 years and had laid the foundations of Northport and Charlevoix. They had traded at Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) and were familiar with this entire region. Knowing of the vast lime dock foundation on the south shores of Little Traverse Bay, Mr. Rose purchased about 200 acres of land at this point. The railroad was approaching completion and Mr. Rose came with supplies for a store which he started in Chief Petoskey's house which was located at 116 W. Lake Street, and material for his house had been shipped by boat from Traverse City. All supplies had to be landed by a scow. The following summer (1874) a dock was built by Fox & Rose and was located just a little east of the present one. About this time Mr. Rose had completed his home, so brought his wife and two daughters, Elizabeth and Abbie, here to live. A store building had also been erected on Mitchell Street, about where McCabe's Hardware Store is now, and a stock of goods moved to that location.

In October, 1874, Mr. Rose, wishing to devote most of his time to lime manufacture, made a change whereby the store came into possession of Fox, Rose and Buttars, consisting of Amos Fox of Charlevoix, Hiram O. Rose of Petoskey, and Archibald Buttars of Charlevoix, Mr. Buttars taking sole charge of the store as well as the one which the firm operated at Charlevoix. Some time later Mr. Buttars retired. The two remaining partners decided to dissolve and everything was invoiced. Mr. Rose took everything around Pekey, Mr. Fox took everything around Charlevoix, each division including a home.

When Mr. Rose came here the lime rock bluffs were almost to the water's edge. He cut out enough lime rock and piled it in the water to make room for a very small lime kiln which burned 35 barreds a day.

Mr. Rose was the first president of the village of Petoskey and some years later built a small building to be used for an electric light plant on the dam just south of the Mitchell Street bridge.

Much credit is due Mr. Rose for his untiring efforts in the development of Petoskey, and through his ingenuity, many obstacles of those early days were overcome. He had a long and honorable career and won the respect of all the people.



H. O. ROSE LIME KILN

## Dr. William Little and R. H. Little

Dr. William Little had been practicing at Reed City and because of ill health, decided to visit this region, thinking that he might better himself physically and that there might be an opening in this new territory for his profession. Dr. Little and his brother, R. H. Little, came at the same time that H. O. Rose came. The first night or two was spent in an Indian cabin situated near the Mission Church, and the first two days were spent in looking over the territory. They finally decided to stay and purchased a tent which they set up about where the Pere Marquette Station now stands.

The doctor had not anticipated much work along his line, but found it necessary to purchase drugs because of considerable sickness which had broken out among the railroad construction gangs.

In the fall of 1873 building material was purchased at Traverse City, and they built a small house and managed to get the foundation in for a hotel before freezing weather came on. It was then the doctor brought his wife and daughter, May, from Reed City. During the winter, they finished the hotel and called it "Rose Hotel." Dr. Little had applied to postal authorities for a post office to be opened at Petoskey and he was appointed postmaster. R. H. Little was appointed deputy. In March of 1874, Bear River post office went out of existence and the Petoskey post office came into existence. About this time an addition was built on to the hotel for the post office and a supply of drugs and medicine was carried in the same room.

The doctor made many professional trips to Cross Village on horse-back and these long trips were very trying on his health, which really had improved.

A story is told of the experience which Dr. Little and Mrs. Elizabeth Rose Foster had one spring when he was called to Little Traverse to attend an Indian boy who had broken his leg. The snow had gone but the roads were not good. The ice in the bay was still safe for travel so the doctor decided to cross the ice with his horse and cutter. Mrs. Little did not want the doctor to go alone, so asked Elizabeth Rose, who was about sixteen years old, to accompany him. All went well until they were about one-half mile from Harbor Point. Here they found a big crack in the ice and a lot of water had come through, forming slush. The horse became frightened because the water was up to his knees. Both the doctor and Elizabeth had to get out of the cutter and by using a board which the doctor always carried with him, managed to get the horse and cutter across this treacherous place. Elizabeth went to the home of a friend and was given dry clothes but the doctor, intent upon reaching the home of the Indian boy as quickly as possible, would not take the time to change to dry clothes. The return trip was made safely for the water had receded under the ice. The doctor was chilled through and through and from then on his health failed rapidly. In 1875 he passed away at Grand Rapids, never having fully realized his dreams. In 1876 his brother, R. H. Little, left Petoskey.

### EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In the fall of 1874 Mrs. Rachel Alley, the late Mrs. Rachel Oakley, came to Petoskey by train from Grand Rapids. Upon her arrival she registered at the Rose House and when being shown to her room, was casually told that the first school board meeting was being held in the hotel. She decided immediately to apply for the position as teacher and appeared before the three board members—Dr. William Little, director; Archibald McMillan, treasurer; and Liberty Ingalls, moderator. Of course, the board members did not know Mrs. Alley, but in questioning her, found out that she had taught in Canada. Dr. Little, a Canadian, said that anyone who could teach in Canada was good enough for them and Mrs. Alley was hired then and there to teach the first public school in Petoskey. She returned to Grand Rapids to get her daughter, Elizabeth, then came back to Petoskey to make her home. She purchased a board cabin, located about where the Bremmeyr-Bain Hardware now stands. The school house was across the street just a little north and west of the Hollywood Theatre. It was built with boards placed perpendicularly with a gable roof and no chimney. A box stove with its stovepipe running through the roof, crude board benches and desks were found inside. The size was about 18x20 feet and it also was used as a church, town hall and for general assemblies. School opened Wednesday, Nov. 18, 1874 and the first scholars were: Abbie Rose (Bathrick), Jennie Bunnell, Elizabeth Oakley (Chrysler), Hannah Krusel (Anderson), Jennie Tracy, Sarah McMillan, Hattie Petoskey, James Niles, Will Tracy, Jessie Tracy, Hazen Ingalls, Byron Ingalls, John Dixon, Frank Knight, William McMillan, Colin McMillan, Robert Petoskey, Peter Petoskey and David Petoskey. Mrs. Alley taught all that winter and spring. That summer a two room school house — one room down stairs and one upstairs—was built by Peter Bremmeyr at a cost of \$1790 on the site of the present High School building. Mr. C. S. Hampton, principal, and Miss Fannie E. Burtch of New York were the first teachers

in this school. R. C. Ames taught in '76, but before the year was over was replaced by a Mr. Saylor. In '78 Mr. Barber was employed as principal with two assistants, the old bowling alley at the head of the dock stairs being fitted up for a primary room with Miss Nellie Briggs as teacher. In '79 an addition was built to the Howard street school, making four rooms. A. D. Metz was engaged as principal and taught nearly two years. The attendance increased rapidly and in the fall of '80 the fifth teacher was put in charge of a department which met in a vacant store on Lake Street. T. H. Clayton succeeded Mr. Metz as principal. More rooms were needed so a high school was built on Lake Street in 1881 with a faculty of two, Professor Ewing and Miss Mina Ruddiman. Sometime later the building burned very mysteriously.

The school honor list for the Petoskey Public schools for the month ending November 9, 1877, contained the names of Abbie Rose (Bathrick), Ethel Rowan (Fasquelle), William Jarman, Amelia Hutchings (Aldrich), Almira Ramsby (Hinderer), David Hastings, Hattie Rose (Lawton), Ida Easton (Seofield), William Tracy, William McManus, Schuyler Ramsby. This list was published in the Democrat of November 16, 1877.

In 1885 the first graduation exercises were held and Flora Davis, Mary B. Gaumer, Millie Hitchcock, Frank A. Howe, Fred A. Rose, Ella Hutchinson, Jenny Siebert and Martha Warne received diplomas.

#### **FIRST POST OFFICE ESTABLISHED IN 1852**

The first post office was established in the Andrew Porter home in 1852 with Andrew Porter as postmaster. He provided four boxes 12x14x8 inches and fitted them in the wall. These boxes are still in the old mission home and the reading matter, "Going North" and "Going South" is still legible.

In 1873 the post office was moved in a cigar box to the Rose Hotel which had been built by Dr. Little and the doctor was appointed postmaster. It was at this time that the name was changed from Bear Creek to Petoskey. This office became the distributing point for a territory as far north as Sault Ste. Marie and east and west to a considerable distance. For a time a dry goods box was ample for the needs. On November 19, 1875, Dr. Little passed away and Mrs. Little was appointed postmistress. By this time the post office occupied the entire rear of Dr. Sudworth's drug store situated at about 325 Lake Street and took most of Mrs. Little's time. A year later a store building was rented and for the first time the post office occupied an entire building. The salary was on a commission basis and amounted only to \$17 but during 1878 and 1879 the commission increased to \$1300. Mrs. Little resigned in 1880.

Ralph Connable, Sr., was then appointed postmaster with W. F. Lawton as assistant.

#### **EARLY SETTLERS**

The general settlement of the county and the development of its agricultural resources were delayed by the fact of the lands of the county being held subject to the Indian treaty. In August, 1874, the eastern tier of townships came into market and on April 15, 1875, the remainder of the townships were thrown open to actual settlers. The actual white population of the county in 1875 was 150. There were 800 claims for homesteads made the first three days and from then on a steady stream of immigration poured into the wilderness of Emmet County.

The year of 1874 was a preparatory period. In the spring the railroad was finished to this point and opened for regular business. Messrs. Rose and Co. built the first dock for their own and public use, so that the highways of travel and transportation were opened by rail and water. They began the manufacture of lime and platted the village of Petoskey. A little later Shaw and McMillan filed additional plats.

Petoskey is indeed fortunate in the type of men who nurtured rapidly but surely, this beautiful city of the "Million Dollar Sunsets." The opening of this territory came on the heels of the panic of '73 and brought to this county hundreds of men who had lived in luxury, but whom the exigencies of the times had driven from their homes in the hope of regaining lost fortunes. Many were the old soldiers who were enticed northward by the chance of securing a homestead, and a great part of those who took up land had no experience in farming and knew nothing of the hardships they were to endure. Some who had been working farms on shares in other territory decided to come here and have farms of their own. So the first settlers, the men of letters, the gifted scholars, the millionaires of other days settled by the side of the plodding laborer whose only knowledge was the law of toil, and together they struggled, sweat and sometimes starved.

The homesteaders were dressed well at first, but when their clothing began to wear out a uniform had to be substituted for ordinary clothes. Finally everything was worn out, and because there was no money to buy anything new, flour sacks

were used for making clothing. This material became the regulation costume of the "Moss Backs." At first it looked queer to see a man walking down the street with the legend "Hannah Lay's Best" branded on the ampler part of his trousers. The more sensitive bought new bags for their regiments, but it was an open question whether it was better to travel as "XXX Seamless" or "Lily White Flour."

The water supply for drinking purposes was taken by the pail full from a spring which flowed out of the bank just east and south of the dock. There were many springs on the side hill, one in the territory between Division Street and Williams Street, furnished the water for the Cushman House, being piped directly from the spring into the hotel. The supply for cleaning and washing purposes was taken from the bay, put in barrels and delivered by horse and wagon from door to door at 10c a barrel. About 1878 or '79 an epidemic of typhoid fever broke out and the city erected a water works building (present site) and supplied the city with pure water.

The winter of 1876 was a time that tried men's souls. Potatoes or turnips were the only means of sustenance for many a family, and many were without even that much. The supervisors had exhausted the means at their command, and finally Rozelle Rose sent out an appeal through his paper and others also. The response was quick and good. The next year, the coming of the pigeons brought about \$40,000 into the country and the board money of the trappers who flocked here to catch the pigeons, all helped materially. Then too, the farmers began to raise enough to get along.

In the fall of 1878 the question of incorporating the village began to be agitated. On November 30, 1877, a public meeting was held in McCarty's Hall for the purpose of taking action in the direction of obtaining a charter. A committee consisting of John G. Hill, H. O. Rose, A. S. Lee, W. M. Everett and George S. Richmond were appointed to draft a map of the territory to be incorporated and take such steps as were necessary. Hon. C. J. Pailthorp, representative in the legislature from this district, had charge of the matter, and in February 1879 secured the passage of a bill granting a charter to the village.

The rapidity with which the village matured during those early years is one of the remarkable features of its history. The buildings were substantial and attractive and the whole village wore a finished appearance not usually acquired in so short a time. The romantic beauty of its location and the healthfulness of the climate have brought the place into prominence as a summer resort, and every season the village and vicinity is visited by thousands of people in pursuit of health and happiness.

## Music And Drama

The first dramatic club in Petoskey was organized Dec. 14, 1877. There were eight members, Miss Ingalls, Miss White, Miss Kinney, Miss Wescott, Miss Watson, Dr. Bisbee, C. J. Pailthorp and Edward Kinney and "Down by the Sea" was the name of the first play which they presented in McCarty's Hall on Lake Street. They did not have much to do with as far as scenery, stage, etc., was concerned, but through their ingenuity the play was a grand success. Planks were laid across barrels for the stage, the seats for the spectators were made by standing big chunks of wood on end, then placing planks on those. The curtains were white sheets.

The first organ was a small melodeon which Mrs. G. W. Bump brought with her when she came in 1875. This little melodeon was carried anywhere and everywhere for music. Mrs. J. G. Hill had the second organ.

Mrs. J. A. C. Rowan, Mrs. Bump and Mrs. J. G. Hill gave music lessons. Mrs. G. W. Bump played the organ in the Methodist church, Mrs. Elizabeth Foster played the organ in the Presbyterian church and Mrs. C. J. Pailthorp played for M. E. Sunday School and other gatherings.

The first orchestra was organized by Mrs. Ralph Connable, Sr., who was a very fine musician. There were fourteen children who belonged to this orchestra and they played in the Methodist church. Mrs. Bradley Lawton played the violin and was one of the members.

Sept. 10, 1875, a meeting was held to organize the first Brass Band.

On Dec. 17, 1875, the first Dancing Club was organized and dances were held in McCarty's Hall.

March 17, 1876, the first Masquerade Ball was given.

About 1885 Professor Henry Gordon and family moved to Petoskey and the Professor organized a singing school here and in many of the villages near by. He also led the choir in the Methodist Church where Mrs. Lawton played the organ.

A stocky, sturdy and hardy old Scotchman, popularly known as Scotty, used to thrill the early residents with tunes on his bag-pipes.

Mrs. J. A. C. Rowan taught music and held penmanship classes. She put on the first local concert. Hattie Petoskey, daughter of Louis Petoskey, won high honors at this concert.

## Newspapers

Dr. Little printed and issued the first newspaper in the county. It was 4x6 in size and was called the "Petoskey City Weekly Times" and only one copy was made.

April 1875 Rozelle Rose, father of Mrs. W. B. Lawton, brought his family here to locate, and started printing the first ordinary sized newspaper in Petoskey. It was called the "Emmet County Democrat" and was printed on an old Washington hand press, the first issue being Oct. 14, 1875. The printing office was located in a building just across the street from the present county building for a short time then moved to a small building on the lot where the post office now stands.

The Petoskey City Record (paper) owes its origin to James Buckley, a hardware merchant in the village of Petoskey. In the summer of 1878 Mr. Buckley associated with himself, George A. Masher, a practical printer and June 20 issued the first number of the Petoskey City Record, bearing the motto "For Your Good and Our Profit."

### THE FIRST JAILS

During the first year or two in Petoskey everyone was so busy making a living that no one had thought about providing a jail. In fact one had not been needed.

There was a prominent young merchant who was an admirable citizen except when intoxicated, then he made trouble for his family and everybody in the village. One day he was especially obnoxious and some one said, "We'll put him in jail." There wasn't any. M. F. Quaintance, who was the ticket agent of the G. R. and I. Railroad, heard of this need and promptly offered the use of a cattle car for a jail. The merchant was put in there for the night, but no one around there slept a wink, for he shouted and yelled all night. However, the remedy proved a cure because this young man was never known to become intoxicated again.

Another story about this "box car jail" is told. An Indian who had imbibed too freely was put in a box car for the night. In the morning he was nowhere to be found because sometime during the night he had kicked a hole in the side of the car and escaped. This happened several times. The railroad company decided they needed all their cars so refused to let one be used as a jail.

So then it was necessary to build one.

A location was found at about 410 State Street and the jail was built in the middle of the block.

It was a two room building made out of 2x8 planks laid flat and spiked together. The windows were not much more than air holes with bars across them. Many Indians were put in there for the night or until they were sobered up. There was no water in the jail and the Indians would yell for water. The C. B. Henika family lived on the lot back of the jail—410 Michigan Street—and Mrs. Henika would send either Amos or Frank to the jail with a bottle of water. The windows were so small that the boys could just put the neck of the bottle through and then hold it up and keep tipping it up while the Indians drank. There was one prisoner who made little baskets out of peach pits and many of the school children would bring him peaches so they could have a basket.

## Industries Prior To 1880

The industries in Petoskey prior to 1880 were the H. O. Rose Lime Kiln situated at the Corner of Howard and Rose Streets; the W. L. McManus Saw Mill at the corner of Bridge and Porter Streets; and the Forbes and Baker Wooden Ware Factory, situated on the dam south of Mitchell Street bridge.

In 1874 John Kilborn purchased a small grist mill located on Bear River between Porter and Bridge Streets and enlarged the building for a sawmill. He also rebuilt the dam wide enough for a road. A year later John Gemmill became a partner. W. L. McManus purchased the mill in 1876 and the two men continued in his employ for many years.

The principal income of the farmers in those early days was from the sale of the wood they cut and sold to H. O. Rose and Hazen Ingalls for shipment to the upper lake ports from Milwaukee to Chicago. The railroads and steamers also used this wood, and logs were sold to the McManus saw mill.

Commercial fishing was started by Mr. McCormick in 1877 at the shore line west of the dock. His principal supply was bought from the Indians at Cross Village and Middle Village.

## Hotels

The Rose House, situated where the Elks Temple now stands, was built by Dr. Little during the winter of 1874, later it was sold to D. C. Bradley and the name

changed to Occidental.

The Cushman House, which used to be situated at the corner of Lake Street and Railroad Park, was built August 8, 1874, by D. J. Cushman of Otsego. J. S. Lewis was associated with Mr. Cushman in the operating.

The City Hotel, was built about 1875 by Jim Garvin and was situated at 418 Mitchell Street. Some time during the year, Philo C. Chrysler purchased the hotel and in 1876 sold it to J. A. C. Rowan who changed the name to Clifton House.

The Ozark Hotel was built on the corner of Lake and Clinton Streets by O. D. Tracy.

The Pacific Hotel, which stood just back of Kroger's store, was built in the late seventies by E. B. Husted, then purchased by William J. Orser and was later sold to David Hastings.

The Bay Shore House was built by Liberty Ingalls on Water Street about 1880.

The Arlington Hotel, which used to be located on the Municipal Play Grounds, was built by Forbs and Mills October 21, 1882, and operated by James R. Hayes.

The National Hotel which used to stand at 316-318 Lake Street was built in 1883 by J. G. Braun.

The Oriental Hotel, which stood just across the street from the Pere Marquette steps, was owned by William A. Lockwood and in 1885 was rented by Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Lawton for six years.

The Banghart Hotel, situated at the corner of Petoskey and Bay Streets, was built by P. D. Banghart about 1885. It is now called the Chippewa Hotel.

The Petrie House, situated at 220 Mitchell Street, was built by A. M. Petrie in 1889.

The Perry Hotel, at the corner of Bay and Louis Streets, was erected by Norman J. Perry in 1890.

The Imperial Hotel, which was situated on the corner of Bay and Louis Streets, was built in 1895 by J. L. Newberry and Charles J. Caskey.

#### EARLY FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION

The first Ferry line between Petoskey and Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) was started in 1874 by Philo Chrysler and was continued without interruption for 29 years (1903) when it was sold to Charles Roe who operated boats on the Bay until 1930 when the ferry service was discontinued.

The first ferry boat was a sail boat called the "Sea Shell," the second one was the "George W. Wool," which was about the size of a launch, third, "M. W. Wright," fourth, "North Star," about the size of a tug. The other boats in order were "Walter Chrysler," "Gracie Barker," "Adrienne," "Hazel," "Searchlight," "Silver Spray," "Columbia," and the "America."

A rival line was started in 1878 and the boats "Allen Bulley," "Lady Mae," and "Lady Washington" were operated under the name of Rose & Co.

There were other lines which operated for a year or two at a time and the boats belonging to these lines were "J. W. Parmalee," "Cyclone," "Skater," and "Thos. Friant." The "Thos. Friant" operated between Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) and Boyne City.

The lake steamers operating between Traverse City and Cheboygan, stopped at every dock enroute. The boats in order were "A. C. Van Raalte," "Music," "City of Grand Rapids," "Thos. Faxton," and were followed by the "Columbia," which operated between Little Traverse Bay and Traverse City.

The "Idaho," "Fountain City," "China," and "Japan" belonged to the Western Transit Co., and made trips once a week between Chicago and Buffalo.

Then came the "Lawrence" and "Champlain," which operated between Chicago and Cheboygan.

The steamer "Messenger" operated in connection with the G. R. & I. Railroad and made trips between Petoskey and Mackinac Island during the summer from 1881 to 1883.

The main trail in those early days was called Portage. This was at the head of Little Traverse Bay. Here the Indians landed with their canoes, carried them across the land to Round Lake, thence on through the chains of lakes and rivers to Cheboygan. The Indians preferred this way of reaching Cheboygan because the water in the Straits was so apt to be rough. They used to stop at an Indian village which was situated on the west arm of Burt Lake, just west of the mouth of Crooked River.

Another trail which was used by the Indians of this region from time immemorial extended from Mackinaw City to Grand Rapids, running through Petoskey near the Pennsylvania Station.

Soon after the first train came into Petoskey, Star Routes were established by the government for the purpose of carrying mail and passengers. These routes were opened up in 1874. One was the route from Petoskey to Harbor Springs, one from Petoskey to Charlevoix, and one from Petoskey to Cheboygan. Henry Easton was the

first white man to carry the mail to Charlevoix. Later he carried mail on the Cheboygan route.

Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Lee and son, Burr, moved to this northern territory in Oct. 1874 and during the winter of 1874-75 operated the "Half Way" House on the star route between Petoskey and Cheboygan. Their house was situated near Brutus, where the route crossed the Maple River. It was here that the stage stopped while meals were served to the passengers and fresh horses were hitched to the coach. In 1875 the Lees moved to Petoskey. Mr. Lee engaged in the real estate and insurance business and was also land agent for the G. R. & I. Railroad. There is one Sunday that stands out vividly in H. Burr Lee's recollections of the early days. Owing to a severe storm, the stage had carried few passengers as no trains had arrived for several days. On Saturday the driver was asked if he would make the trip on Sunday if a train came in. He promptly replied that he would not. So on Sunday Mrs. Lee prepared dinner for only her family. Just as they were through eating the stage coach arrived bringing ten passengers. Of course, all had to be fed, so with much hurrying and scurrying another dinner was prepared and everybody was happy.

## Million Dollar Sunsets

The first record we have of our Million Dollar Sunsets was written by George Gage, a reporter for the Grand Rapids Times, who accompanied the inspection party who arrived in the village on November 12, 1873, and was printed in that paper on November 14, 1873. This is what he wrote: "A beautiful view was that afforded from our car windows. The sun was just setting and the horizon clothed in brilliant colors, the snow lay thick upon the ground and loaded down the tree branches, making all glitter and glisten like some vast level of diamond work, such as is told of in "Arabian Night's Tales." On the land side the bluffs and pine crowned hills stretched away into the far distance while just before us lay the still waters of the bay tinged with myriad tender tints reflected from above. It was indeed a picture for a painter."

## The First Banks

Mrs. Little, later Mrs. Kirkland, who came here in '73 and was the postmistress from '75 to '80, operated the first bank at the post office. People would deposit their money at the post office, then she would send the money out of Petoskey. During the years of '77 and '78 a great deal of money was deposited with Mrs. Little because the Indians were selling their lands which had been given to them by the Government, the sale of pigeons had netted the people a great deal and many new families arrived daily to take up homesteads. At times there was so much money in the post office that Mrs. Little was afraid to leave the building, and night after night, Mrs. C. J. Ditto, her niece relates, she would sleep at the post office.

In May 1878 Mr. P. B. Wachtel of St. Marys, Pennsylvania, came to Petoskey and established a private bank, the first in Emmet County, in a small frame building (still standing) at 426 E. Mitchell Street. Mr. Wachtel's capital was small but he made a success of the undertaking. A short time later Mr. Quinlan became a partner and from then when W. L. Curtis, Wachtel and Wylie became partners, the bank was known as the Petoskey City Bank. By this time the bank had been moved to the present location, corner of Howard and Mitchell Streets. One year later Mr. Wachtel disposed of his interest and later Mr. Curtis took over Mr. Wylie's interest. In 1893, under the management of W. L. Curtis and son, Chalmers Curtis, the bank became known as the First National Bank.

The First State Bank of Petoskey was organized in 1891 and was the first bank to be incorporated. George Robinson and Leon Chichester organized the bank with Ira Chichester, Sr., as president and Leon Chichester as cashier. A few years later Leon Chichester became the principal owner.

### THE COMING OF THE PIGEONS

The story of the coming of the pigeons on May 17, 1877, was as miraculous and timely to the residents of this region as was the feeding of Manna to the Israelites in Biblical times. Here is the story.

Late one afternoon on a dismal March day the wild pigeons began to arrive in Petoskey and surrounding territory for the purpose of rearing their young. Every tree of any size in a territory about 24 miles long and three to five miles wide had from one to a dozen nests. The noise made by the countless number was deafening. During the six weeks that the birds remained a thousand men waged a warfare of extermination against them. More than a million birds were slaughtered.

## Churches In The Early Days

Wherever a few American people are gathered together, especially while pioneering, there is sooner or later a demand for the establishment of a religious service.

Between the years of '74 and '75 the ministers of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches at Charlevoix could not come to the village of Petoskey more than once a month. So the superintendent of the G. R. & I. railroad, who lived in Grand Rapids used to telegraph to M. F. Quaintance, the ticket agent here, every Saturday night and tell him to clean up a coach and set it aside for religious services. A little later people belonging to the different denominations began to organize and meetings were held in the school house, the mill, in homes, and halls until funds could be raised to build the church of their choice.

The Presbyterian church was the first to be established in what is now called the City of Petoskey. It was a mission erected in 1852 and presided over by Andrew Porter, the story of which has been told in the preceding pages. During the summer of 1875 Rev. John Redpath came to Petoskey at the request of the proper Presbyterian authorities with a view of assuming charge of their interests. A. M. McMillan donated ground for the first Presbyterian church. The following winter a church building was sufficiently advanced to admit of services being held in it. On August 23, 1876, the first Presbyterian church, located in the middle of the block at the corner of Division and Bay Streets, was completed and dedicated by the Presbytery of Grand Rapids. This was also the date of reorganization of the church under its present name, The First Presbyterian Church of Petoskey. Rev. W. S. Potter was called in 1878 after John Redpath accepted a call to Big Rapids. Rev. Potter was the first regularly called and installed pastor.

Grounds for the St. Francis Mission, situated at the extreme foot of Lake Street, near Magnus Park, were donated by an Indian couple in 1859. A church was erected immediately and baptisms in Bear River are recorded as early as 1860. Father Pius O. F. M. held Christmas services (Midnight Mass) at this Mission church in 1884 and fifty years later returned to celebrate another Christmas service in the same building.

In 1879 the St. Francis church, corner of State and Howard was started, and from then on the Mission was somewhat neglected, although on two occasions it was repaired. The first pastor of St. Francis church was Gustav Graf, who was here from 1881-1884. The Franciscans came that year and in 1903 Father Cyriac Stempel O. F. M. was pastor. In 1908 the church was finished and solemnly consecrated on Thanksgiving day by Bishop Richter of Grand Rapids.

The First Methodist Church had an organization among the Indians before the village was founded. They met in a log cabin about a mile west and beyond the city limits of Petoskey. A little later a church was erected.

During the winter of 1874-1875 Rev. George Cole of the Charlevoix charge, came to Petoskey once a month to preach to the Indians. His first sermon was delivered in the home of Louis Petoskey who lived at 214 Lake Street. The Indians were not used to the ways of the white people at this time and did not like to be shut up in a house with them, so for some time the meetings were held under a large maple tree growing in the lot just west. This tree became known as the "Pulpit Tree."

Early in 1875 a Methodist Society was formed among the white people, church and Sunday School being held in the hall above McCarty's saloon, the mill, and school house. In the fall of 1876, Rev. Wm. L. Tilden, pastor at Charlevoix, arranged to come here and preach every three weeks. In 1877 Shaw and McMillan gave the lots (present site of church) to the Methodists and a church was erected. That fall Rev. Robert Bird of the Detroit conference was sent here in the double capacity of pastor of the church and superintendent of the grounds at Bay View.

As early as 1876 sacred acts were performed by some Zion Evangelical Lutheran pastor. From time to time pastors living at Reed City and Leland came to Petoskey alternately to conduct services. A little later, the Rev. J. Karrer came every six weeks to preach and in 1879 organized the congregation. Meetings were held in private homes and then at the parsonage on Emmet Street during the pastorate of their first minister, Rev. M. H. Feddersen. In 1892 Rev. E. R. Schauer, the third pastor was called and it was during his pastorate that the present church, located at the corner of Fulton and Petoskey Streets, was built.

Services of the Trinity Evangelical Church were held in private homes in 1878 by Rev. W. J. Zander, a German preacher. Two years later Rev. George Johnson was called as pastor and it was during his stay in Petoskey that funds were raised to build a church at the corner of Howard and Grove St. Later this building was sold and for a time services were held in the Adventist church until the present building at 219 State Street was erected.

Twelve families met together in 1878 for the purpose of organizing an Emmanuel Evangelical and Reformed church. In 1881 two lots on the corner of Emmet

and Grove Streets were purchased and the next year a church was built. The first clergyman was Rev. John D. Boegner who came in 1880 and he was succeeded by Rev. J. Schumm the next year. John Billeau, Sr., is the only charter member living.

It has been impossible to find out much about the German Methodist Church. However, it is known that the lot on the corner of Michigan and Waukazoo Avenue was donated by A. S. Lee, through Mrs. Ralph Connable, Sr., to the German Methodists as long as they conducted church services. After the society gave up their services the property reverted to H. Burr Lee who later gave it to Parr Memorial Baptist Church.

The first sermon for the Emmanuel Episcopal Church was preached by Bishop Gillespie in a store building on Nov. 21, 1880. From that time until 1885 meetings were held at intervals in the old Presbyterian church and in the German Methodist church. In 1887 the first rector, Rev. Charles T. Stout came to Petoskey and during his six years' work here W. W. Rice bought the old Presbyterian church and gave it to the membership. In 1889 this church was moved to its present location. The second rector was Rev. E. W. Jewell who served from 1893-1896.

There were fourteen members of the Baptist faith who held meetings in private homes, then rented a room called Mitchell Hall which was situated about where the Petoskey House Furnishing Store now stands. Some years later they purchased the German Methodist church which was located on the corner of Michigan Street and Waukazoo Avenue. The first pastor was Rev. F. W. Barlow, the next one, Rev. J. D. Pailis and the third one in 1889 was Rev. D. H. Leland. This church building was sold to the Jewish people and moved across the street (north) and in 1910 the present church was built.

The first meetings of the United Brethren Church were held in the old school house with Tom Campbell as leader of the meetings. Their church was built about 1883 or '84 and was located at the corner of Howard and State Streets, in the building where Paige's shop is now located, and the minister was Rev. John Ambrose. Later the membership became divided and another church was built on the corner of Fulton and Baxter Streets and services were held in both churches.

In 1893 there were four families who formed a nucleus for the beginning of the First Christian Church. The next few years brought many discouragements to this group but a few were so faithful that in 1896 Fred S. Linsell was called to be pastor. After having met in the German Lutheran church, the Baptist church and in the office of the Justice of the Peace, E. A. Faunce, the members decided it was time to build a church of their own. So during Rev. Linsell's ministry, a small church was built on the corner of Monroe and Liberty Streets. In 1906 Rev. C. E. Pickett was called to be pastor.

The Jewish church was established in the early '90's and the first services were held in a hall over Chattaway's grocery store. Later meetings were held in the old United Brethren church at the corner of State and Howard Streets. In 1910 they purchased the old Baptist church and moved it to the present location, on the north-east corner of Michigan Street and Waukazoo Avenue. Rabbi Ruttenburg was the first pastor and Rabbi Pappaport, the second one.

## SIDELIGHTS ON EARLY HISTORY

In the '70's Amos H. Tyler built an observation tower at 312 Bay St. The office was on the first floor. Because of the many, many steps, business was not very prosperous and the name "Tyler's Folly" was given to the project. A little later Mr. P. D. Banghart bought the property and added to the height of the tower and still later built an addition to the tower for his home.

Mr. Banghart was the first lapidary and built a little shop about one-half the size of a garage about half way down the bank by the little creek that runs by the Municipal Play Grounds.

There used to be a skating rink just at the foot of the steps which lead to the Pere Marquette Station. It was here that Garland Petoskey, son of Louis Petoskey, learned to be an expert skater. Later he travelled all over the United States giving exhibitions.

The home at 444 Grove St. was built by Mitchell Petoskey and whenever one of their tribe passed away, the body was brought to his home and wakes were held each night.

The fire bell was a piece of 1½ in. steel bent in triangular shape. It was hung in a frame on top of the blacksmith shop, which was situated near the alley running between Howard St. and Waukazoo Ave. As the buildings became higher, the alarm was moved to the park near the Meyer Hardware and put in a steel tower. The tower was about the same as a windmill and a frame was built to hold the triangle. The alarm could be heard all over the village. The hose was carried on a two-wheeled cart, and the fire men were all volunteers.

The streets were lighted by kerosene lamps fastened on top of posts. There was a light at each corner. It was Dan Tripp's task to keep the lamps filled and lighted. Nightly he would be seen carrying a ladder in one hand and a can of kerosene in the other.

The railroad to Bay View and the old fashioned street car was "dubbed by the Boys" as the "Busted Valise and Clothes Line" railroad.

A story told by David Hastings is as follows—

"Frederick Priebe, a German pioneer of Emmet County, lived west of Petoskey, near what was then known as Carpenter's Corners. One of Fred's peculiar traits was that he never removed the sleigh bells from his horses harness winter or summer. Occasionally the old gentleman would meet some of his friends in town and they would have a good time. When he was ready to go home, if Fred did not feel equal to sitting on the wagon seat, he would crawl in the wagon box, tie up the lines and the old horses would take him home safely. One day some of us boys were playing in the small creek that crossed the Charlevoix road just north of the present cement plant site. We heard Fred's sleigh bells coming. When the team reached the creek we stopped them, unhitched the horses and then led them into the brush out of sight. Fred finally woke up and after considerable effort got up on his knees while holding on the back of the wagon seat. He looked around and then exclaimed, 'Well, by golly—either I lose a team of horses or find a wagon, I don't know vich.' Well, after having our fun, and Fred enjoyed it as much as we did, we hitched his team to the wagon and he continued his journey home, happy."

Judge C. J. Pailthorp was the first man to be elected to the legislature from this county, and about '78 left for Lansing. The people in southern Michigan thought of this northern territory as being in the "sticks" so when Mr. Pailthorp took his place just before roll call no one paid any attention to him. Later he was voted the best dressed and best looking member.

The bay did not freeze over during the winter of '78 and quite a number of people went in row boats to a Christmas celebration given by Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Lawton at Bay View.

Many interesting things took place in those early days that took real courage to meet and at one time when things were especially distressing and dark, a Mr. Hutchins, acting minister for the Presbyterian Society held a prayer meeting to ask God's help. He entered into the meeting with a real desire to get help and so in earnest did he become that he asked for a barrel of sugar, a barrel of salt, and barrels of flour and pork, and a barrel of pepper. "O, no Lord, that is too much pepper," he corrected and kent right on with his prayer.

Mrs. W. B. Lawton tells of the time that many Petoskey folks went to Harbor Springs to celebrate the 4th of July. The ferry boat "The George W. Wool" was too small to carry all who wanted to go, so they tied two large row boats, one behind the other, to the ferry and loaded them full. On the return trip Louis Petoskey was in the second row boat and insisted on standing up, shouting and gesticulating until everyone was afraid the boat would capsize.

Mr. J. A. C. Rowan organized the first fire company in the village and also organized the Grand Army of the Republic of Petoskey. It was through his efforts that a group of men were called together to organize a Masonic Lodge.

The first excursion to come to Petoskey came from Richmond, Ind., in July, 1874. A uniformed band came as well as many people, making a big day for Petoskey.

There was an Indian here by the name of Louis Grunda who thought a great deal of Mr. Pailthorp and always called him Mr. Pailcorps. Louis Grunda left Petoskey for St. Ignace and several years later Mr. Pailthorp was called to St. Ignace on a case and upon arrival saw his Indian friend among the jurors. To make a long story short, Mr. Pailthorp won his case and as he was leaving, Louis came to him and said, "I pull like h— for you Mr. Pailcorps."

There were three political parties which took part in the election of 1876—the Democrats, Republicans and Prohibitionists. Each had his own flag pole with the standard bearer's name on the flag.

Bay View did not have a post office in those real early days and W. B. Lawton, who lived in Bay View, tells that he was hired to carry the mail from Petoskey to Bay View. One day when he was ready to come for the mail, he found that their horse was in use, and because he didn't want to walk that mile, hitched up their cow. The road in those days was not wide enough for two vehicles to pass and on this particular occasion it was winter and there were banks of snow on both sides of the road. All went well until they met the stage coach. Everyone thought the cow should turn out and let the coach proceed. However, the cow had other ideas and no one could budge her out of the road, so the passengers had to walk around her and some way they succeeded in tipping and shoving the coach past.

Some time after the railroad was laid to Bay View, the track was extended to

Conway where connections could be made with the steamer "Northern Belle" which made regular trips through the Inland Route. This steamer was a side wheeler so that the curves in Crooked River could be taken easier. The train to Conway was operated by steam and the little locomotive was called the "Riverside" and had been purchased from the elevated railways in New York City. This engine was superseded by one called the "Rapids" and this train was operated until the railroad was extended to Mackinaw City.

John Keep, uncle of the Misses Anna and Della Keep, surveyed the ground for the railroad between Grand Rapids and Petoskey. Later he built the State Road which is now called Mitchell Street Road.

The Henika store is the only store in Petoskey which has been in continuous operation since 1875.

On August 5, 1879 a grand railroad rally and "Bee" was held at Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) to begin work on laying the tracks from Bay View to above mentioned place. Everybody helped—doctors, lawyers, merchants, chiefs and the ladies also went along to prepare the meals. Much of the work was done that winter and because no one understood the work any too well, the rails were not laid far enough apart and during the heat of the following summer the tracks curled up until they looked like a snake. Not until 1882 was the track completed and a regular train schedule in operation.

The first 4th of July celebration was held on the Nation's centennial in 1876. Orations were delivered by J. G. Hill, C. J. Pailthorp and Hon. C. L. Fraser, State Representative, who read a sketch of Emmet County which he had prepared. After the address a basket dinner was enjoyed, then about 200 enjoyed an excursion around Little Traverse Bay on the steamer A. C. Van Raalte.

The first railroad track to Bay View was a wooden track and was not strong enough for the big engine and coach to go on, so Petoskey was the stopping place and the Pullmans were all left here. One night the brakeman forgot to set the brakes on three Pullmans. The next morning the Pullmans were gone. The elevation of the track is much higher at Petoskey than at Bay View and some time during the night the cars had coasted to Bay View. It took a team of mules to haul them back, one by one.

Mr. and Mrs. Kirkland (nee Mrs. Little) were very much in love with this country and devoted much of their time and money to helping others. In a phaeton drawn by a small white horse this couple could be seen going from house to house performing acts of mercy.

A year or so after the Methodists were presented with land at Bay View for a camp ground, the Presbyterians and Baptists began looking for a place in this northern territory to hold similar meetings. The people of Little Traverse presented the Presbyterians with land where Wequetonsing now stands, and the Baptists held their meetings near Charlevoix. The Indians, wishing to become more like the white people in religious matters decided to have a camp ground of their own and chose Wabmeme (meaning pigeon's rest) for their services. Some of the Indians lived in ordinary pointed tents, others lived under quilts and blankets which they spread over the bushes. Nearby was a lake which covered about an acre of ground. On the lake was a flat bottomed boat which the Indians and white children could ride in if they would allow an Indian girl, whose duty it was to watch the children, to accompany them. Thus in the early history of Petoskey the people of all denominations gathered during the summer months, recreating in God's own garden and worshiping in His natural temples.

About 1880 Petoskey was fast becoming a Hay Fever resort. On September 10 a Hay Fever convention was held and C. I. Deyo was elected president and J. S. Daly secretary. On September 5, 1882, the Western Hay Fever Association was organized and Petoskey was designated as the most favorable resort for sufferers. The officers of the association in 1884 were: President, Col. Lorenzo James, Montgomery, Alabama; First Vice President, Col. J. A. Andrews, Cincinnati, Ohio; Secretary, A. Kephart, Berrien, Michigan; Treasurer, F. J. Belknap, Petoskey, Michigan.

Old Mother Smoke, one of the interesting Indian characters of the early days, derived her name from the fact that she was never seen without a broken stemmed clay pipe in her mouth. She was very gay and funny, was always seen at all celebrations and had quite a talent for finding out about everything that went on in the community. She found out that there were some red-headed babies in one home in Petoskey and as she had never seen any, she went to the house, walked up on the porch and peeped in the window. The mother was frightened at first, but later became used to seeing Mother Smoke and some times three or four other squaws at her window trying their best to get a glimpse of the red-headed babies.

Mrs. J. G. Hill tells about an Indian woman who visited her one day. Mrs. Hill said she sat and sat and sat and that something seemed to be on her mind. Finally

the Indian asked Mrs. Hill to come and see her private school which she had established in her own home for her own people. When Mrs. Hill arrived at this house the Indian said, "White man have school, so can Indian."

Bears were very plentiful in the early days and many are the persons who were frightened out of their wits. One was killed about where the Sly Auto Co. is now located.

Mr. Ralph Connable Sr., built the birch bark Summer House which stood in Pennsylvania railroad park so many years.

The first telephone (acoustic) in the city connected Harwoods House and Drug Store and was built February 27, 1880.

A Home Benevolent Society was organized in 1876, which was independent of any church society. Women from every denomination were members and did a world of good for both white people and Indians. Those who were very active in the work were Mrs. H. O. Rose, Mrs. J. A. C. Rowan, Mrs. Annie Kirkland, Mrs. C. J. Pailthorp, Mrs. Rozelle Rose, Mrs. G. W. Bump, Mrs. J. G. Hill, Mrs. David Cushman and many others. Baskets of provisions and clothing were packed at Mrs. Rowan's and distributed to both white people and Indians.

The first train came into Petoskey at 5 P. M. on November 12, 1873 and remained one hour. Those on the train were the officials and directors of the railroad, Governor Bagley, the Talcott Brothers, contractors and reporters for several newspapers. There was a baggage car and the official and directors cars of the railroad. No one left the train during that hour because of the inclement weather conditions, for it was snowing and everything was covered with slush. In spite of this condition a reporter, George Gage, could see the beauties above and wrote the first story of our Million Dollar Sunsets which appears elsewhere in this booklet. The late Charlie Krusel belonged to the section gang which built the railroad into Petoskey during the summer and fall of 1873.

The first house built by a white man on the east side of the river was built at the foot of Howard St. by G. A. Smith, called "Pa" Smith. It was called the Union Hotel and was only a little board shanty which was afterward found too small for an ordinary wood house for an ordinary family.

In 1875 Petoskey was summarized as follows—118 houses, three hotels, 10 stores, six saloons, one bakery, a blacksmith shop, two physicians, two lawyers, two churches, three lime kilns, one manufactory about to commence operations, and three dams across the river.

In the year 1868 when Charlevoix County was still a part of Emmet County, a story is told by Rev. A. S. Badger, D. D. who came as a missionary to a little village near Charlevoix. This is his story. "My first funeral was that of a child who died as I came into the settlement. The casket was purchased in Elk Rapids and brought to the settlement on horse back. As I saw him coming through the woods, it was a strange sight to me. The service was held in a little log school house. Cattle are sociable animals, and where people congregate they will collect. They came to the funeral. The "bell cow" made so much noise that a man went out from the service and drove them away."

The first telephone exchange known as the Petoskey Telephone Co., was organized in 1884 by J. I. Atkins, the directors of which were J. I. Atkins, Eliza D. Atkins and M. W. Atkins with a capitalization of \$2,000—twenty shares at \$100 each, all owned by the above directors. The telephone instrument was made of rubber composition. It was a disc of about eight inches in diameter with a metal diaphragm inside. The mouth piece was very similar to the mouth piece in use now. The office was situated in the cupola of Flavious J. Smith's Livery Stable, about the location of the present City Hall building. It was a circular room with about twenty-five telephones arranged about the room, and in the center was a swivel chair enabling the operator to turn to each phone. Each subscriber had two phones, one at his house and the other at the telephone office and the operator was called by tapping a pencil on the diaphragm of the phone. When a person desired to order groceries or give a message to anyone, it was necessary to call the operator, give him the message, then he relayed it to the proper party. Needless to say, not many dates were made over the phone by the young people.

At one time in the late seventies, a Methodist Sunday school picnic was held at Oden and the picnickers were taken by train in gondolas which were decorated with evergreen trees and streamers.

Long before the time of automobiles, it was thought advisable to have a bicycle path between Bay View and Petoskey. One fine day the stores all closed and all the business men took their shovels and constructed such a path.

There were just two crossings over Bear River before 1875. These were corduroy bridges, one about where the Pere Marquette Railroad track crosses the river, and the other one at the south end of Howard Street. Bear River used to

empty into Little Traverse Bay about where the dock is now situated.

C. J. Pailthorp was the first delegate sent from this county to the State Convention at Lansing. When he went to vote, his vote was challenged because they said there wasn't any such place as Petoskey.

Before the triangular fire bell was made, the bell in the Presbyterian church was used for a fire alarm. J. A. C. Rowan was the chief of the first volunteer fire department.

Henry Easton tells the story of a fire in 1876 which nearly destroyed the school house. The fire had started in the woods at the top of Howard Street and because of a southerly wind the flames spread rapidly toward the home of G. W. Bump at 711 Howard Street and the school house. A bucket brigade was formed to put out the woods fire and to keep the roof of the school house wet. Otis Watson was the man stationed on the roof and while throwing a pailful of water missed his footing and slid down the roof and landed right beside a stump. He was quite badly hurt but fully recovered.

After Little Traverse Bay was frozen and perfectly safe for travel, all trips to Little Traverse (Harbor Springs) were made across the ice. The "ice road" started about where the Gas Plant stands today and evergreen trees were stationed at equal distances to mark the road. On Sunday afternoon everyone who owned a pony or a horse made the trip to Harbor Springs, drove around the block at the Harbor and then came back home. Those who did not own a horse or a pony took a walk. Thus the "Ice Road" was a "Board Walk" for people and horses to promenade.

One morning while one of the residents of Petoskey stood on her porch watching the water in Little Traverse Bay, she was heard to exclaim "I see a sea serpent." For several years many fantastical stories were told about that sea serpent. George McCabe who was always looking for something new and novel, thought it worth while to construct one. With the assistance of carpenters he had one about 80 feet long made. It was mounted on four or five wagons and added much to the street parade of the early days. People came from great distances to see the sea serpent.

In the early days, the only lot that was cleared was the one on which the First National Bank now stands. It was here that they all played croquet.

There was no class distinction and no cliques among the pioneers. Everybody worked and played together. Their chief desire was to boost the village and build it up. When the dock, built by H. O. Rose, was washed away during a bad storm and he decided not to build another one, everyone decided a dock was needed and all worked for it. Everyone helped to put down the Mineral Well. When the road was built north as far as Oden, again everyone helped.

The receptions given annually on New Year's Day were the real high lights of the year. Six or seven women would open their homes to callers during the afternoon and evening. At each reception about six young ladies would be asked by the hostess to stand in the receiving line and perhaps that many older women would also be present. It was the men who did the calling and they usually came in groups. They would shake hands with all in the receiving line, chat for a few minutes, be served with light refreshments then go to the next place. Each young man left each young lady his card.

Would it be possible for all of the clubs in the city to work together in the preservation of the Mission School House built by Andrew Porter in 1852? This building will soon be a century old. Duplicate desks could be made and everything preserved as nearly as possible the way it originally was.

#### Here in 1874

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Porter  
Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Rose, Lime Kiln  
Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McMillan, real estate  
Dr. and Mrs. William Little, physician  
Mr. and Mrs. Austin Bunnell, groceries  
Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Cushman, hotel  
George Cushman, livery stables  
Mr. and Mrs. G. S. Richmond, land looker  
Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Gifford, lumber dealer  
Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Wait, hardware & groceries  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carmichael, dry goods  
Mr. and Mrs. Abner S. Lee, real estate  
Rev. and Mrs. John Redpath, minister  
Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Tracy, hotel  
Mr. and Mrs. John Kilborn, millwright  
Mrs. Rachel Oakley, formerly Mrs. Alley

#### Hotels and Business Men Here in 1875

C. J. Pailthorp, lawyer  
D. R. Joslin, lawyer  
Fox, Rose & Buttars, general store  
A. C. Hutchins, minister  
E. Van Meer, groceries  
L. M. McKinnon, restaurant  
T. B. Hamilton, meat market  
John McNeil, meat market  
Loveless Blaney, lumber dealer  
Bond & Ingalls, general store  
Mrs. H. C. Campbell, millinery  
Cushman House, hotel  
Rose House, hotel  
Tracy House, hotel  
H. O. Rose, manufacturing lime

## Here in 1874

teacher

L. C. Watson, hardware  
Otis Watson, hardware  
M. F. Quaintance, ticket agent  
Tom Quinlan, Fox, Rose & Buttars, store  
Charles R. Ford, lawyer

## Soldiers of the Civil War Who Took Up Homesteads Near Petoskey

Harmon A. Bixby, 1874, settled in Joy Valley  
William H. Stone, 1875, settled in Mentor  
(Wildwood) Cheboygan County  
William Near, 1875, Epsilon  
William Blanchard, 1875, Epsilon  
Orlando Curtis, 1875, Joy Valley  
Cornelius Anabel, 1875, Joy Valley  
Alvin Wilcox, 1875, four miles east  
John Keep, 1874, four miles east on the  
Mitchell Street road  
Charlie Fox, 1875, Springvale  
Sam Hall, 1875, Springvale  
Peter Boyer, 1875, Springvale  
Lemuel Williams, 1875, Springvale  
Robert P. Reed, 1875, Greenwood  
Daniel Herrington, 1875, north arm of  
Walloon Lake  
Oliver Holly, 1875, north arm of Walloon Lake  
Cornelius Wooden, 1875, north arm of  
Walloon Lake  
Phillip E. Peisch, 1875, four miles east  
Christopher Fred Laubrick, 1875, Mentor  
Frank Jones, 1875, north arm of Walloon Lake  
Alexander Worden, 1875, Petoskey  
Jefferson Minard, 1875, Petoskey

## Sons and Daughters of the Above Soldiers Who Still Live in Petoskey

Clayton Bixby, Nathan J. Stone, Henry Near,  
Otis Anabel, Will B. Reed, Frank Blanchard,  
Miss Mae Blanchard, Mrs. Hannah Herrington  
Niles, Daniel Herrington, Lewis Herrington,  
Milo Wooden, Fred Wooden, Mrs. Edith  
Wooden Ernst, Frank Laubrick, John Jones,  
Mrs. Bert Jones Morgan, Alexander Worden.

## Hotel and Business Men

Shaw & McMillan, real estate  
Jay Scofield, barber  
W. H. Kaye, boarding house  
George Ferris, blacksmith  
T. M. Quick, blacksmith  
J. K. Brown, electric physician  
Ben Dean, painter  
M. H. Dunham, shoemaker  
Burt J. Hall, painter  
Dr. W. H. Wood, physician  
Will Everett, livery barn  
J. A. C. Rowan, Clifton House  
G. W. Bump, grocery  
W. T. Latham, clothing  
C. B. Henika, furniture  
J. S. Coffman, jewelry store  
E. S. Kinney, boot & shoe store  
L. Austin, flour & feed store  
William Abbott, gunsmith  
W. H. Kelly, barber  
N. J. Tracy & Co., real estate  
Rozelle Rose, newspaper  
James Buckley, hardware  
Reuben Fix, blacksmith  
Niles Krusel, railroad employe  
R. P. Reed  
Adin R. Easton, carpenter  
City Hotel  
Nine different places where intoxi-  
cating drinks were served.

## Sons and Daughters of the Pioneers who came in 1874 and 1875 still liv- ing in Petoskey not mentioned else- where in this booklet.

George Kilborn  
Henry Kilborn  
John Kilborn  
Mrs. Olive Watson Hankey  
August Krusel  
Mrs. Hannah Krusel Anderson  
Oscar Krusel  
Edwin Pailthorp  
Mrs. Ida Easton Scofield

## Bay View

Bay View is a Methodist institution. It owes its existence to the desire of many Methodists of Michigan for a State Camp Ground, after the pattern of Martha's Vineyard and Ocean Grove on the Atlantic Coast.

To the Rev. Dr. J. H. McCarty, at that time pastor of the First M. E. Church of Jackson, Mich., must be credited most of the preliminary work necessary to awakening an interest and giving form to the enterprise. He was the first secretary, visited and addressed the Detroit Conference, and by personal effort secured a favorable consideration of the project by the Michigan Conference, of which he was a member. As the immediate result of his efforts, each of the conferences appointed a committee to act jointly in the location of suitable grounds for holding permanently an annual state camp meeting. Sept. 2, 1875, the Detroit conference appointed as its committee Rev. Dr. E. H. Pilcher, Seth Reed, Robert Bird and David Preston, Esq., of Detroit. Sept. 10, 1875, the Michigan conference appointed Rev. J. H. McCarty, Rev. W. H. Brockway, Judge A. P. Moors, and S. O. Knapp, layman, of Jackson, Mich. After four months of inquiry, travelling and much labor, the committees fixed upon the Petoskey region, at the head of Little Traverse Bay, as the most available point. To S. O. Knapp, more than anyone else belongs the credit of discovering and persuading others to see the superior claims of Petoskey.

During the four months that these committees had been visiting sites offered by

Ludington, Clam Lake, Otsego Lake, Traverse City, Cheboygan and Cadillac, the Petoskey folks heard a rumor here and there about the project but didn't think about it seriously because they thought the camp meeting would just last a week and that would be the end of it.

One day in the spring of 1875, Mr. W. O. Hughart, president of the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, sent word to H. O. Rose, of Petoskey, to come to Grand Rapids. It was during this visit that Mr. Rose learned that the committee were very favorably impressed with the site of Petoskey, as all this region was called. Mr. Hughart wanted to know why the Petoskey people didn't do something about it, and also said that many inducements had been included in the offers from the other localities.

The early settlers had very little money and Mr. Rose didn't see how they could possibly offer anything, but he decided to come home and try. After talking it over with C. J. Pailthorp, Mr. Rose decided to see what could be done. He asked Mr. Pailthorp to draw up a heading for a subscription paper, and when that was finished said, "Come on right now. We are going to circulate this paper all over the village." Mr. Pailthorp does not recall a single person who refused to sign the paper and in three hours the two men had \$3,300 subscribed. Some money was given but it was mostly hours of labor.

It was a long list of names that Mr. Rose presented to Mr. Hughart on his second trip to Grand Rapids, as he made the following propositions: That the railroad company purchase the property and lay the railroad to the site chosen; That the people of Petoskey would reimburse the company with labor equal to amount subscribed. Mr. Hughart, as well as the railroad Company was intensely interested in pushing the railroad that much farther north, but didn't feel that the list of names was much of a guarantee and told Mr. Rose so. Undaunted, Mr. Rose arrived back in Petoskey, more determined than ever to see the proposition through. Another call was made on each subscriber for his signature on the back of the paper in exactly the same location as on the front side as a guarantee that he would fulfill his promise.

A third trip was made to Grand Rapids and this "guaranteed list" presented to Mr. Hughart. The simple but ingenious method of guarantee pleased Mr. Hughart so much that the railroad company took up the proposition offered by Mr. Rose. The "guarantee" was made good; because all but about \$100 was collected.

H. O. Rose and A. S. Lee donated some of the land and the rest was purchased by the railroad company. The site which included 301 acres was deeded to J. N. Mc'heany railroad agent of this district and by him to this committee which had chosen the name—Michigan State Camp Ground Association of the M. E. Church. By the conditions of this deed, the Association agreed to hold an annual camp meeting on these grounds for 15 successful years, and during that time to expend in erecting cottages, laying out streets, parks, grading, and in other ways improving the grounds to the amount of not less than \$10,000. If these conditions were complied with at the expiration of 15 years, the Association would then hold the land in Fee Simple. If at any time, however, within this period the Association elect by payment of \$4,000 the land would become theirs the same as if the above conditions had been complied with.

During the summer of 1876 the G. R. & I. Railroad was extended from its then terminal, which was about directly in front of Mr. Rose's residence, 505 Rose Street, to what is now known as Bay View, under the supervision of Archibald McMillan. While the work was being done, the wives of the men would pack lunches and carry them to the scene of labor and enjoy a picnic during the noon hour.

Several meetings of the committee were held in Jackson and Grand Rapids that winter and on April 12, 1876, they made arrangements for the first Camp Meeting to be held Aug. 1, also planned to send out 10,000 circular letters containing information regarding the Camp Ground. The officers elected at a previous meeting were Pres. Rev. E. H. Pilcher, 1st Vice Pres. John M. Arnold, 2nd Vice Pres. Wm. A. Brockway, Sec. Rev. J. H. McCarty and Treas. David Preston. They proceeded to make their organization a permanent one and nominations were made for the following standing committees of: Claims and Accounts, Ways and Means, Arrangement and Worship. Titles and Ornamentation, Health and Order and Transportation. Later committees on Hotels, Sidewalks and Recreation were added.

On May 2, 1876, E. H. Pilcher, E. O. Knapp, D. B. Tracy, A. P. Moors and Seth Reed came to Petoskey to select a spot for worship and to start work in cleaning and plotting the grounds. Rev. Robert Bird, pastor of the Methodist Church at Petoskey, was engaged to take charge of the grounds under the direction of the committees.

The first camp meeting was held Aug. 2, 1876, in a dense forest of Beech, Maple, Birch and Hemlock about where the Auditorium now stands. A circle of tents in front, a boarding tent of rough boards and a lodging barn, of which Rev. W. H. Brockway was landlord, comprised the city in the wilderness. The grounds were formally dedicated to the worship of God at the first service. Dr. Pilcher preaching the sermon. At the close of the service the first regular meeting of the trustees was held on the side hill just back of the Auditorium, the members sitting for the most part on the trunk and limbs of a fallen hemlock. There were present E. H. Pilcher, Robert Bird, J. M. Arnold, W. H. Shier, W. A. Scripps, S. O. Knapp, W. H. Brockway, Wm. Phelps, D. F. Barnes, D. B. Tracy, A. P. Moors, R. N. McKaig and Seth Reed.



THE FIRST SPEAKERS STAND

At a meeting of the trustees immediately following, these officers were elected: President, E. H. Pilcher; 1st Vice Pres. J. M. Arnold; 2nd Vice Pres. W. H. Brockway; 3rd Vice Pres. R. N. McKaig; Sec. Seth Reed and Treas. David Preston. At the end of a week all returned home determined to boom their Camp Ground and to return the next summer for a longer season under more favorable circumstances.

When the land was purchased by the railroad, the shore line was not included because many of the Indians owned the titles to the land, even though they were not living there at the time. Everyone interested felt that the Camp Grounds would be so much more valuable with the shore line. Again Mr. Rose was determined to finish a task well begun. Mr. W. G. Hinman, an agent of the land department of the G. R. & I. R. R., was invited to come as a guest to the Rose home the fall of 1876. Mr. Rose furnished a cutter drawn by two fast Indian ponies, and during that fall and winter the two men drove as far north as Sault Ste. Marie and as far south as Traverse City to locate the Indians who had titles to the shore. Mr. Rose could speak the Indian language which helped materially in securing the titles. Mr. Pailthorpe took care of the legal part of it and by the spring of 1877, Bay View possessed a beautiful shore line.



FIRST BAY VIEW DEPOT

car back to Petoskey. Mr. George Clark was the first conductor and Mr. David Hastings the first "engineer" or the one that drove the mule.

## Founders Of Bay View

Bay View owes a great deal to the wisdom and foresight of E. H. Pilcher, John M. Arnold, Wm. Brockway, J. H. McCarty, David Preston, Seth Reed, S. O. Knapp, Wm. Phelps, D. F. Barnes, Wm. Shier, A. P. Moors and J. C. More, who through the early years served as officers in the Association. Many were the odds against them but they were untiring in their efforts to make a success of the Camp Ground.

To Judge A. P. Moors should go a great deal of credit for the plan which he worked out in regard to the property of Bay View. The plan was that anyone wishing to erect a cottage must first be voted on by the Association and then upon payment of \$10 (later raised to \$15 then to \$25) may become a member of the Association; own property and erect a cottage. Should the owner wish to sell, the person buying must first be accepted by the Association. All leases are granted for 15 years and all are renewed at the same time.

The first meetings held lasted about a week and were held out of doors. A small building was erected as a speaker's stand and the first seats were planks put across chunks of wood. A little later a larger building was erected which is today used as recreation headquarters for the boys' and girls' clubs. The porch was used for a speaker's platform and benches were placed in rows in front. About 1881 Watson Snyder, Sr., Wm. Brockway, and David Preston were appointed a committee to build a chapel which would be ready for June 1. In the year 1887 the old Auditorium was erected where the new building now stands.

As the number of visitors to Bay View increased the meetings were lengthened, and a series of scientific lectures was added to the program. In 1886 John M. Hall, then a young lawyer of Flint, became interested in Bay View as a member of the Association and, with Rev. Washington Gardner, conducted on the grounds what was then known as the Michigan Chautauqua Assembly. Each year since that time an Assembly program has been held.

In 1913 the Bay View Association was made the recipient of two wonderful gifts. One was a gift of \$15,000 by John M. Hall for a new auditorium. Later more was added to the original sum. The other was a gift of a pipe organ by Thomas Gordon, Jr., who was an active business man of Howell, Michigan.

Bay View stands today as the outgrowth of splendid planning of the pioneers of the Seventies and is noted for its healthful climate, its programs for religious training and its summer college for intellectual training and also its school of music.

#### ARTESIAN WELLS

From the beginning the members of the Association carefully considered the question of a sufficient supply of good water. The first supply was taken from many springs, such as Central Springs, Cold Springs, Scramlin Springs, Minnehaha Springs and Farnsworth Springs. It became evident that the water was liable to contamination, so the boring of wells was undertaken. These proved a partial success, but it was necessary to look for another source. After many painful exploring expeditions through the tangled wilderness, and much wise and earnest debate, a reservoir was built at Mt. Pisgah Springs and the water piped to the Bay View House and to each end of Fairview Avenue through water logs of Norway Pine or Tamarac with cast iron couplings. Later pumps were placed at various locations on the grounds. About 1918 this source became inadequate and the water supply was taken from a well near the shore. A small building was erected and machinery installed for the purpose of furnishing light and water to the residents. The fuel to furnish steam for the small pump was wood cut from the Bay View woods. In 1922 a new well was driven and the water was pumped by an electric pump. Most of the water at present is received from Petoskey. At times the amount used is so great that it is necessary to supplement this amount from the well at Bay View.

#### HOTELS FROM 1877 TILL THE PRESENT TIME

In 1877 the Bay View House was erected by Rev. Bird and at the end of the season was sold to the Association. The next few years the hotel was managed by Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Lawton, parents of W. B. Lawton, now teller of the First National Bank. During their management, several additions were added to the building to care for the steady increase of business.

The next manager was George W. Childs, Sr., who later purchased the property. Later George W. Childs, Jr., and his sister, Mrs. Sarah Irish, became the owners, the business remaining in the Childs family until the hotel burned. It was after George W. Childs, Jr., took over the management that an addition was built to be used for a Restaurant and that a stand for the sale of soda water, lemonade, ice-cream, fruit and confectionery was allowed.

The other hotels in Bay View at present are the Bay View Inn, formerly the Howard House, the Terrace Inn, the Hilton and the Southern. The tea rooms are the Compton Boarding House, the Russett Inn, the Gypsy Inn and Oriole Tea Room.

## Facts Old And New

The first store on the Bay View grounds was run by Rose and Buttars.

In 1879 the Bay View Dock Company was organized and W. F. Lawton was given the contract for building a dock. Teams of oxen were used almost entirely for this work and most of the men employed were homesteaders. A little later the Association purchased small boats to rent.

The parks in Bay View are Encampment Park, Fairview Park, Sunset Park, Cedar Park, Recreation Park or Base Ball Park and Booth Park.

Mr. Ralph Connable, Sr., built and presented to the Association a rustic pulpit made entirely of natural growth. He found a beech tree about a foot in diameter with a small hemlock tree growing upon each side with their roots grown together and firmly interlaced. These trees cut off at a proper distance from the ground were suitably fashioned for a pulpit stand with lamp or floor stands at each side. The roots braced the stand so firmly that no joist or additional work was necessary. The surface was finished and the tops improved by rustic trimming so that when completed it presented a beautiful unique appearance.

The following appeared on the first Bay View Assembly program in 1886. "To secure a few uniform customs, timely preparations for the meetings and good order, the following bells will be rung, and the management ask all persons on the grounds to aid in conforming to them."

A. M. 7:00	Rising Bell	7:30	Breakfast Bell
P. M. 12:15	Dinner Bell	6:00	Supper Bell
10:00 Retiring Bell			

In 1881 a Woman's Foreign Missionary Association was formed with Mesdames Seth Reed, David Preston, D. F. Barnes, M. H. T. Jordan, Millie S. Pilcher, W. H. Brockway as the officers.

Bay View has a wonderful museum located on the second floor of the Auditorium and in Loud Hall. Most of the exhibits in the Auditorium are from Egypt and are relics of Biblical days. Among the exhibits are pieces of jewelry 2,000 years old, bread 3,000 years old, urns, mummies, statues, bowls and Egyptian Gods. In Loud Hall there is a collection of Indian relics, various kinds of stones and stuffed birds of almost every known variety.

Many of our Indians in this section fought in the Civil War and made very good soldiers. One group captured Dr. Swift's father and held him as a prisoner for a while. Mr. Swift was treated very kindly.

Dr. Seth Reed had the honor of naming Bay View, was secretary fourteen years and responded to roll call at annual conference 76 times. He also plotted the grounds and named the streets, many of which were named after the early settlers.

On October 31, 1879, the Bay View dock was carried away during a big storm. The same thing happened again during the winter of 1883-1884.

Some of the different organizations which have been organized at Bay View or have held meetings there are the W. C. T. U., the W. F. M. S., the Bay View Reading Circle, Epworth League, Sunday School Congress, Teachers Association of Michigan and the annual meeting of the Michigan Conference.

The Halls belonging to the Bay View Association are Loud Hall, Music Hall, Evelyn Hall, Hitchcock Hall, Epworth Hall and the Woman's Council building which used to be called Chautauqua cottage.

Bay View has always had a library, first in a residence, next in Music Hall, then on the second floor of the new auditorium and now in their own building which was erected in 1931.

The records show that W. J. McCune, a resident of Detroit at that time was the first member to be taken into the Michigan State Camp Ground Association. W. J. McCune was the father of W. G. McCune of Petoskey, who is a member of the board of trustees at the present time.

In 1886 twenty-five street kerosene lamps were bought from the city of Flint and four chandeliers of four lamps each for the chapel.

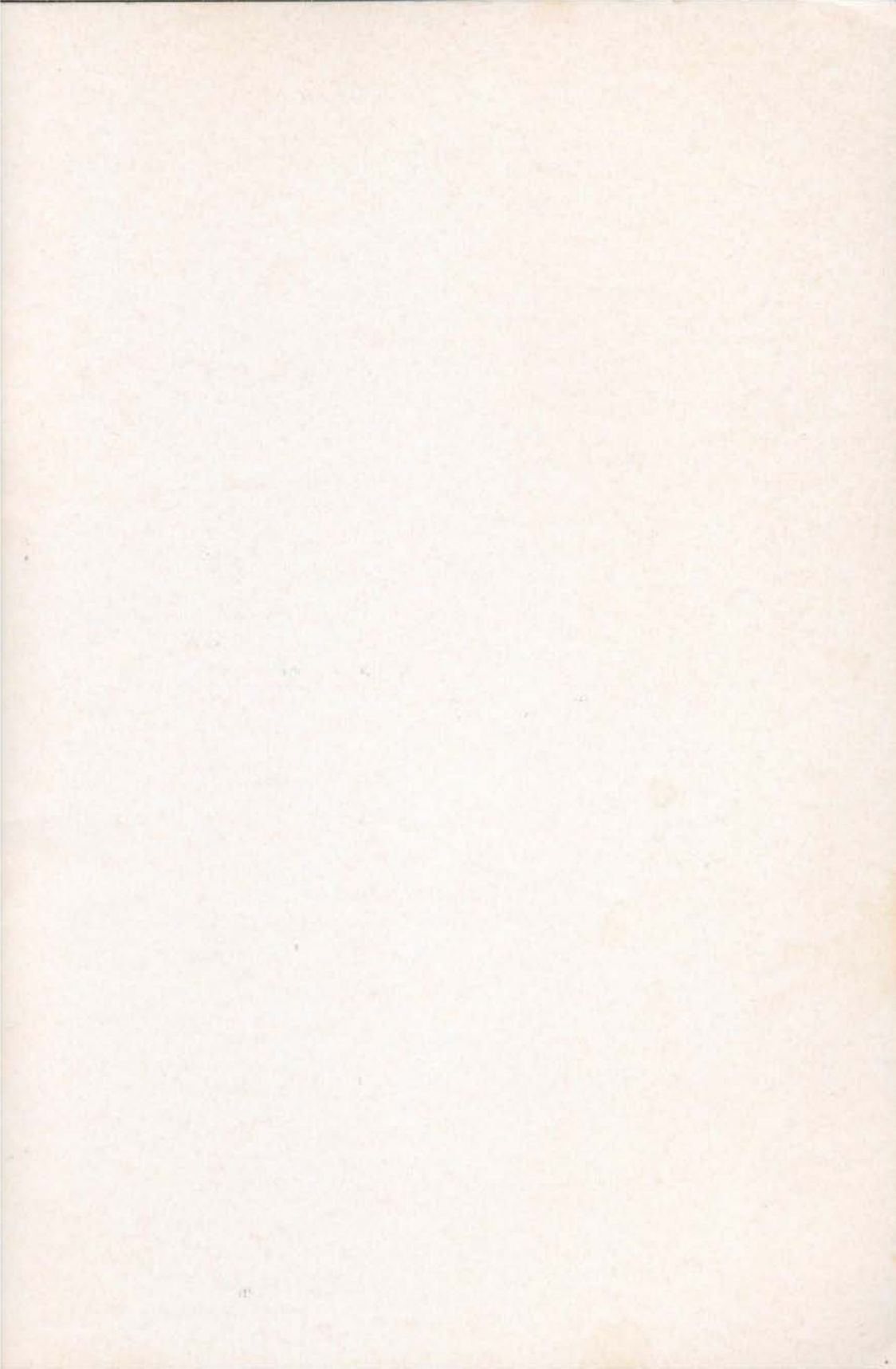
The change from the "Michigan Camp Ground Association" to the "Bay View Camp Ground Association" was made in 1890, this Association taking over the property and assuming the obligations of the former.

"Big Sunday" was the high light of the Camp Ground meetings and people came from miles around by horse and buggy, boat and train.

In appreciation for the work which H. O. Rose did in securing the land for the Michigan State Camp Ground Association, the trustees gave Mr. Rose the choice of any lot on the grounds. His choice was Block 4 Lot 6 on Beech Street or where the Twamley Cottage now stands.

The date of 1886 is inscribed on the bells used to call people to service.

Dr. Hugh Kennedy of Grand Rapids is now president of the Association, having served on the board since 1916 and since 1923 has been manager of the Assembly.



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