

## HISTORY

OF

# CASS COUNTY,

MICHIGAN.

With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches

OF SOME OF ITS PROMINENT MEN AND PIONEERS.

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#### MASONIC.

The first Masonic organization in the town was Dowagiac Lodge, No. 10, F. & A. M., the organization of which was effected January 11, 1855, with a small number of members—exactly how many or who they were does not now appear. Following are the names of the first officers: M., A. M. Worden; S. W., George Shrackenhast; J. W., E. H. Foster; Secretary, D. H. Wagner; Treasurer, S. M. Spencer; S. D., — Dickson; J. D., P. B. Holmes.

Keystone Chapter, No. 36, R. A. M., was organized (under a dispensation) November 12, 1864, and the following-named gentlemen were elected as its first officers: H. P., I. A. Shingledecker; K., James M. Spencer; Scribe, Hubbell Warner; C. H., A. N. Alward; P. S., Henry Tietsort; R. A. C., William Houser; M. 3d V., Joel Andrews; M. 2d V., D. C. Marsh; M. 1st V., H. C. Parker; Sentinel, A. M. Alward.

Peninsular Lodge, No. 214, F. & A. M., was organized November 19, 1836. The first officers elected were: M., Arthur Smith; S. W., E. O. Adams; J. W., Thomas Shidler; Treasurer, Thomas Ambrose; Secretary, Charles Fletcher; S. D., D. W. Clemmer; J. D., C. R. Miller; Tiler, A. H. Reed.

Dowagiac Council, No. 28, was organized January 17, 1870, with the election of the following officers, viz.: T. I. G. M., Rev. J. Boynton; Deputy T. I. G. M., E. T. Avery; P. C. O. W., D. W. Clemmer; Treasurer, R. C. Osborne; Recorder, C. L. Sherwood; C. O. G., George Miller; C. O. W., Charles Starrett; Sentinel, A. H. Reed.

#### ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.

Hope Lodge, No. 40, of this order, was organized in Dowagiac March 8, 1878, by George R. Pennington, of Detroit, with thirty-eight charter members. The following were elected officers for the first year: P. M. W., C. O. Tower; M. W., E. O. Adams; Foreman, C. L. Sherwood; Overseer, A. H. Mason; Recorder, C. H. Bigelow; Receiver, F. H. Ross; Financier, F. E. Burked; Guide, Hiram Scoville; I. W., Samuel Ingling; O. W., William Bedell; Medical Examiner, Dr. H. S. McMaster; Trustees, Arthur Smith, Richard Holmes, Luman Andrews. The lodge has now a membership of about seventy persons.

The object of this order is to furnish a cheap and reliable insurance. The family of any member upon his or her death receives the sum of \$2,000. Since the organization of Hope Lodge there have been but two deaths among its members, those of O. M. Sherwood and U. F. Ingling.

#### KNIGHTS OF HONOR.

The lodge of this order was instituted December 18, 1877, with the following charter members, viz.: C. L. Sherwood, Dr. Thomas Rix, Dr. H. S. McMaster, A. J. Rouse, E. O. Adams, T. W. Adams, H. A. Farwell, W. H. Argabright, H. M. Argabright, J. O. Becraft, Dr. M. D. Jewell, Thomas J. Rice, Rev. Elias Sias, E. B. Jewell, C. F. Clark, A. Thorp, II. D. Bowling, Eli Green, F. M. Sanders, C. H. Chase, Dr. W. L. Marr, Dr. E. C. Prindle, O. J. Parker, Edward Wells, P. Oppenheim, G. B. Sullivan, L. A. Andrews. Following are the names of the first officers: Dictator, Thomas Rix; V. Dictator, M. D. Jewell; A. Dictator, J. O. Becraft; Reporter, H. D. Bowling; F. Reporter, T. W. Adams; Treasurer, H. S. McMaster; Chaplain, A. J. Rouse; Guide, E. O. Adams; Guardian, II. A. Farwell; Sentinel, C. F. Clark; Past Dictator, C. L. Sherwood; Trustees, Eli Green, F. M. Sanders and W. H. Argabright.

#### AMERICAN LEGION OF HONOR.

Dowagiac Council, No. 116, of this order (the first organized in the State) was established March 11, 1880, by Henry H. Porter. The following is a list of the charter members: Henry H. Porter, William W. Easton, Edward C. Prindle, E. Whitney Jewell, Cornelia B. Jewell, Nellie E. Jewell, M. D. Jewell, E. Barlow Jewell, Georgianna Porter, Marion Bowling, James E. Clark, Abigail Thompson, M. A. Wheeler, Rowena Morton, Constant S. Rouse, Ann Rouse, Susan A. Rouse, Margaret Jarvis, James M. Somers, Jasper P. Warner, Ziralda Warner, Thomas Rix, Hattie Rix, Ella E. Clark, C. Fred Clark, Ninrod Monsy, Alma A. Easton, Frank M. Sanders, Hattie C. Sprague, Almira Peck, Homer D. Nash, Gilbert I. Peck, Martha R. Farwell, Mary L. Banker, Frank Morton, Jane B. Clark. The first officers elected were: P. C., Henry H. Porter; C., William W. Easton; V. C., Jasper P. Warner; Orator, Hattie C, Sprague; Secretary, E. Barald Jewell; Treasurer, Thomas Rix; Collector, Georgianna Porter; Chaplain, E. Whitney Jewell; Guide. Nellie E. Jewell; Warden, James M. Somers; Sentry, James E. Clark; Medical Examiner, Dr. William W. Easton.

### THE DOWAGIAC UNION MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The Dowagiac Union Medical Society was organized in August, 1871; Dr. C. J. Curtis,\* President; Dr. A. W. Morse, Vice President; Dr. J. H. Wheeler, Secretary and Treasurer.

The other members were Drs. L. V. Rouse,† P. I. Mulvane, George W. Fosdick,† II. S. Mc-Master,\* E. B. Weed,† and T. Rix, dentist.

\*Eclectic. †Homeopath.