Civil War Veterans Retiring At Old Village Cemetery (Part 8)

"The first date found places George P. Dudley in Brighton in April of 1861, when John Gilluly, as Captain and commissioned officer, was organizing what later became known as The Livingston Company I (Pvt.) 5th Michigan Infantry Regiment. George P. Dudley volunteered and was enlisted August 27, 1861, and became a non-commissioned 5th Sergeant in Company I. September 17, 1862, he was promoted as a Sergeant-Major, as 2nd Lieutenant, July 4, 1863, the day after the battle at Gettysburg. ... The 5th Michigan Volunteers were mustered out at Detroit, July 17, 1865, and George P. Dudley returned to Brighton. Miss Anna Woodruff, a daughter of Evert Woodruff, who had built the Woodruff Mills on Pleasant Valley and Grand River Roads in 1833, taught school in the Village of Brighton that same year of 1865. So it followed that the pretty school teacher and the returning lieutenant and war hero soon married, and lived out their lives in Brighton."

"Quoted from William Pless's Supplement to the DAR Records of the Brighton Village Cemetery.

Further research reveals George was born in England in 1832. He came to Brighton Village by 1860 and by trade was a cabinet maker and carpenter. George was a boarder with the John Doane family. John Doane was the village grocer. He and Anna had a son, Frank, born in 1870, a daughter, Grace, born in 1872 (who died at five months of age), and another son, Percival, born 1875.

Before moving to Howell by 1890, George had served as Brighton Village Treasurer 1869-71 and 1873-74. Although Anna’s family history is quite well documented, very little has been learned of George Dudley’s lineage other than his location of birth and of his English parentage.

Both George and Anna Dudley are buried in the Village Cemetery, along with their daughter, Grace. George died in 1903, and Anna followed him much later, in 1930. Their son, Percival, died in 1936. Percival and wife Julia L. (died 1956) are buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Howell. The location of Frank’s grave has not been determined.

Serving with Dudley was DeWitt Clinton Russell, when the 5th Michigan left for Washington, D.C. on September 11th, 1861 arriving in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 13th. From there they were "...numbered off and stowed away in cattle cars of the most old and dilapidated kind in this wretched way we proceeded to Baltimore..."."

The regiment arrived in Washington on September 14th. Four days later, in Arlington, Virginia, they experienced the first rebel fire directed at them. Two miles south of Arlington, the men built Ft. Lyon, where the regiment remained for the next two months. It was here that DeWitt Clinton Russell died of disease on December 12, 1861, at age 24.

DeWitt was a son of William and Jane Russell, who had purchased 169 acres in Section 3 of Green Oak Township in 1833. DeWitt, along with his parents (Jane died in 1850 and William died in 1870) and brother William (died 1895), is buried above the millpond in the Village Cemetery.

By Marianne Bair from the 1880 History of Livingston County; Census records, cemetery transcriptions by John & Janice Field; and Bill Pless’s Supplement to the DAR Records of Old Village Cemetery. Corrections/additions requested. 810-229-6402.

In Memoriam

The Brighton Area Historical Society wishes to extend its sympathies to the family of:

Pat Brody Convery

Pat was a Brighton native and long-time BAHS member.
Support BAHS: Become a Member or Donate

The BAHS relies on participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to make a donation or become a member, please visit our web site at www.brightonarearealhistorical.com or mail in the following form below.

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We have many great items for sale that help us generate much needed funds to carry on our mission.

These include home décor items (pewter items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like.

* See our full gift shop offering, please contact us, visit BAHC Center or the Lyon School, or see our web site.

BAHS Leadership

From Settlement to City
Brighton, Michigan 1832 - 1945
by Carol McMacken
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Description: This large volume hardcover book contains a beautifully detailed history of Brighton from its earliest days of wilderness settlement through to the growing community of the mid-1940s.

The book also contains over 300 pictures and illustrations and is a must for any book collection on Michigan and its rich history.

BAHS: How to Contact Us or Find Us

If you would like to contact us, please use the following options:

E-Mail: info@brightonarearealhistorical.com
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US Mail: Brighton Area Historical Society
P. O. Box 481
Brighton, MI 48116-0481

Lyon School
11455 Buro Road, west of Pleasant Valley Road. The 1885 Lyon School is a fully restored, barrier-free one-room schoolhouse and serves as our organization headquarters.

ColbACH Center
202 W. Main Street, in downtown Brighton next to the Millpond. ColbACH is formally known as the City of Brighton, Arts, Culture and History Center. It is located in the historic 1879 two story brick building, also known as the Old Town Hall.

Brighton Area Historical Society - brightonarearealhistorical.com
Your Support is Needed

The Friends of the Lyon School Fund is used strictly for the expenses related to maintaining the school and its property. This includes monthly utilities, simple repairs, and large improvement, such as the insulation project done earlier this year. The other fund is the BAHS Projects Fund. We use donations to this fund to cover expenses related to special projects, such as the Oral History project or the digitizing of the old copies of the Argus newspaper. Many of the projects are expensive or require special equipment. Donations to make such projects possible.

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**BAHS Merchandise**

We have many great items for sale that help us generate money to fund our mission. These include home décor items (puzzles, items, afghans and pillows, decorative ceramic tiles, etc.), postcards, craft items, and the like. We sell our gift shop offering, please contact us, visit CoBACh Center or the Lyon School, or see our website.

BAHS Leadership

The BAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Please help us fund our mission while also helping yourself with a tax-deductible contribution. The BAHS accepts monetary support and donations of historical artifacts. Please consider supporting us with your generosity.

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Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 8)

"The first date found places George P. Dudley in Brighton in April of 1861, when John Gilluly, as Captain and commissioned officer, was organizing what later became known as The Livingston Company I (3rd) 5th Michigan Infantry Regiment. George P. Dudley volunteered and was enlisted August 27, 1861, and became a non-commissioned 5th Sergeant in Company I. September 17, 1862, he was promoted as a Sergeant-Major, an 2nd Lieutenant, July 4, 1863, the day after the battle at Gettysburg. ... The 5th Michigan Volunteers were mustered out at Detroit, July 17, 1865, and George P. Dudley returned to Brighton. Miss Anna Woodruff, a daughter of Evert Woodruff, who had built the Woodruff Mills on Pleasant Valley and Grand River Roads in 1833, taught school in the Village of Brighton that same year of 1865. So it followed that the pretty school teacher and the returning lieutenant were here soon married, and lived out their lives in Brighton."

- Quoted from William M's Supplement to the DAR Records of the Brighton Village Cemetery.

Further research reveals George was born in England in 1832. He came to Brighton Village by 1860 and by trade was a cabinet maker and carpenter. George was a boarder with the John Doane family. John Doane was the village grocer. He and Anna had a son, Frank, born in 1870, a daughter, Grace, born in 1872 (who died at five months of age), and another son, Percival, born 1875.

- Before moving to Howell by 1890, George had served as Brighton Village Treasurer 1869-71 and 1873-74. Although Anna's family history is quite well documented, very little has been learned of George Dudley's lineage other than his location of birth and of his English parentage.

Both George and Anna Dudley are buried in the Village Cemetery, along with their daughter, Grace. George died in 1903, and Anna followed him much later, in 1930. Their son, Percival, died in 1936. Percival and wife Julia L. (died 1956) are buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Howell. The location of Frank's grave has not been determined.

Serving with Dudley was DeWitt Clinton Russell, the 5th Michigan left for Washington, D.C. on September 11th, 1861 arriving in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 13th. From there they were "...numbered off and sowed away in cattle cars of the most old and dilapidated kind in this wretched way we proceeded to Baltimore...", writes a comrade.

The regiment arrived in Washington on September 14th. Four days later, in Arlington, Virginia, they experienced the first rebel fire directed at them. Two miles south of Arlington, the men built Ft. Lyon, where the regiment remained for the next two months. It was here that DeWitt Clinton Russell died of disease on December 12, 1861, at age 24.

DeWitt was a son of William and Jane Russell, who had purchased 169 acres in Section 3 of Green Oak Township in 1833. DeWitt, along with his parents (Jane died in 1850 and William died in 1870) and brother William (died 1890), is buried above the millpond in the Village Cemetery.

- By Maricama Bahr from the 1880 History of Livingston County; Census records, cemetery transcriptions by John & Janice Field; and Bill Bahr's Supplement to the DAR Records of Old Village Cemetery. Corrections/additions requested. 810-229-6402.

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