

IT'S FAIR TIME!!! (CONT.)

"...PROVIDED THE CITIZENS OF THE PLACE SHOULD PLEDGE TO THE SOCIETY THE SUM OF \$200.00 TOWARDS DEFRAYING THE INCIDENTAL EXPENSES" THE LIVINGSTON COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY RESOLVED, IN MARCH, 1854, THAT ITS SECOND FAIR SHOULD BE HELD AT THE COUNTY SEAT, HOWELL. AGAIN APRIL 15, WAS SET AS THE PLEDGE DATE DEADLINE. HOWEVER, IF HOWELL COULDN'T ANTE UP IT WOULD GO TO THE TOWNSHIP THAT COULD.

ALTHO IT WAS MAY 2, 1854, THE FAIR BOARD DEEMED THE PLEDGE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TERMS AND IT WAS VOTED THE FAIR WOULD BE HELD IN HOWELL. THE PUBLIC SQUARE TO BE THE FAIR SITE. ONE ASSUMES THIS WAS IN THE BLOCK WHERE THE COURTHOUSE STANDS.

WHERE THE 1855 FAIR WAS HELD HAS NOT BEEN NOTED. HOWELL WAS AGAIN THE SITE FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO YEARS. BRIGHTON HOSTED IN 1858 AND 1859. THEIR PLEDGE INCLUDED AN OFFER TO "...INCLOSE A SUITABLE GROUND AND ERECT ALL NECESSARY BUILDINGS AS DIRECTED BY THE OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY" FOR THE 1860 FAIR. THIS OFFER NECESSITATED PROMPT ACTION BY THE CITIZENS OF HOWELL (OR PERHAPS LOSE OUT COMPLETELY) AND THEY CAME THROUGH. (IT IS THIS WRITER'S OPINION THE SOCIETY PREFERRED THE PERMANENT SITE TO BE HOWELL.) IN TIME FOR THE 1860 FAIR LAND HAD BEEN PURCHASED, FENCED AND SOME BUILDINGS ERECTED EAST OF HOWELL, NEAR THE TOLL GATE ON GRAND RIVER. THIS WOULD BE THE AREA NORTH OF E. GRAND RIVER BETWEEN NATIONAL AND CATRELL STREETS. BY 1880 THE SOCIETY OWNED 20 ACRES WITH A HALF MILE RACE TRACK AND PROPER BUILDINGS WHICH HOUSED ANIMALS, CROPS AND DISPLAYS OF 'HOME MECHANICS'. THE SOCIETY HAD GOOD REASON TO BE PROUD OF HOLDING "...ITS FIRST FAIR ON ITS OWN GROUNDS." (EDITORIAL COMMENT: SINCE IT WAS A COUNTY ORGANIZATION THE GROUNDS COULD HAVE BEEN BUILT ANYWHERE IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY.)

AT THE GREAT RISK OF INCURRING TEDIOUS SIGHS FROM OUR READERS WE WILL, NEVERTHELESS, LIST NAMES OF EARLY SETTLERS WHO WERE ACTIVE IN THE FORMATION OF THE LIVINGSTON AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AS LISTED IN THE 1880 HISTORY OF LIVINGSTON COUNTY.

APPLETON, ISAAC W.	DEAN, WM. W.	NOBLE, A.C.
ALBRECHT, A.F.	EULER, JOHN	OSBORN, WM.
BAETCKE, GUSTAVE & F.	FISHBECK, JACOB & I.	PADDOCK, J.
BARNARD, ELY	FONDA, L.B.	PECK, GEO. W.
BERHNES, RICHARD	GALE, J.D.	PLACEWAY, WM.
BEURMANN, EDWARD & EMIL	GAY, V.W.	POWER, D.B. & R.D.
BINGHAM, KINSLEY & IRA	GAGE, GEO. L.	PRATT, L.C.
BIRD, MELZER & GARDNER	GRANT, E.W.	ROGER, P.
BITTEN, WM.	HARRINGTON, J.F.	ROSS, PERRY G.
BOGAN, PATRICK	HARTMAN, JOHN	SPENCER, CHAS.
BRIGGS, H.D.	HAZARD, S.H. & DAVID	THOMPSON, DAVID & WM.E.
CASE, DANIEL & J. & E.	JUDSON, L.	TUNIS, WM.T.
CLARK, JAMES	KELLOGG, D. & J.W.	WARNER, S.
CONELY, SM., W.D., W.B.	LEE, D.S. & HANIBAL	WEBB, W.L.
CRANSTON, JOB	MALTBY, A.	WOODRUFF, EGBERT W.
CRAWFORD, WM.	MCCABE, M.	

WE'VE INCLUDED ONLY THOSE WITHIN A FEW MILES OF THE CROSS ROAD OF GRAND RIVER TRAIL AND FITCH (MAIN) STREETS, BRIGHTON. (BY MARIEANNA BAIR. TO BE CONT.)

BRIGHTON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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