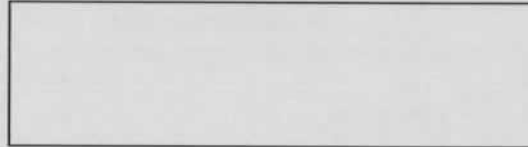


RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Civil War Veterans Resting At Old Village Cemetery (Part 17)

In 1870, **John W. Hutchings**, from England via Illinois, was a laborer for farmer Lyman Judson. Judson owned 160 acres in Section 19 of Brighton Township, about a mile north of town in 1859.

While in Illinois John enlisted, at 18, in Co. A. 69th Illinois Infantry, serving from June 9, 1861 until August 26, 1861, 2.5 months. He was perhaps discharged because of his youth. December 14, 1863, at 20, he enlisted in Co. A. 8th Illinois Cavalry. He was mustered out, July 12, 1865, the result of a skull fracture suffered following his horse's fall.

In Brighton he met and married Sarah A. Pentlin c. 1877. Daughter, Mable, died at one year. A son, Arthur, was born in 1881. John received a soldier's pension of six dollars per month. He and Sarah lived at 315 West North Street all their lives. He was a member of the D.C. Russell GAR Post # 179. John died July 13, 1902, of an unknown illness. He, Sarah and Mable are resting in the Old Village Cemetery.

At the age of 17, **Ransome M. Fillmore** arrived in the Brighton area in 1862, with his parents Walter (a farmer) and Abigail, from Genesee County, New York. Two years later, September 3, 1864, he enlisted as a private in Co. A. 9th Michigan Infantry. Nine months later, he was mustered out in Nashville, TN. The 9th Michigan Infantry had also served in Atlanta, GA.

Ransome married Viola Case November 10, 1867, when she was 21. Viola was a granddaughter of Samuel Case, who settled in Hamburg in 1837. She was a cousin of Wallace Case, noted in the June 2012 issue of the 'Trail Tales'.

Census records indicated Ransome was a carpenter when they married. By 1870, he was a barber. In 1875, Ransome helped organize and was a charter member of the Brighton Cornet Band; in time for the Centennial. The Sinai Tent #44 KTOM of

Brighton included him on the membership roll as did the Masonic Lodge #247 and the D.C. Russell Post #179 of the GAR.

In 1879, Ransome leased, and was proprietor of the Western Hotel (500 West Main) built in 1873. At that time the hotel was owned by R.D. Skillbeck.

When the State Militia began training at Island Lake beginning in 1882, Ransome had a branch barbershop on the grounds.

Not long after their son, Rollo was born, 1871, the couple purchased lot 41 and 42 of Noble's Plat on Grand River in Brighton. It is likely the family built a residence which might have included a barbershop at that location, 225 West Grand River. After the family moved to Lansing in 1901, it appears the home eventually housed a restaurant before burning in 1952. Not long after, Tom and Virginia Disspaine built a residence and beauty shop on the site. In 2012, this site was cleared for development.

While in Lansing, Ransome was prominent in the organization of Michigan State Board of Barber Examiners serving in executive positions. At the time of his death, February 20, 1908, he was serving as treasurer. Ransome's parents and Viola are also interred in the Village Cemetery. Son Rollo died November 15, 1941 There is no marker for him but research indicates he is also buried there.

(Complied by Marieanna Bair from; 1880 History of Livingston County; "Form Settlement to City-Brighton" by Carol McMacken; Case family genealogy by Steven Leith; census records; Old Village Cemetery transcriptions by John and Janice Field; obituaries compiled by M. Charboneau.

(Corrections /additions, requested. 810-229-6402.)