

# YPSILANTI GLEANINGS

PAST SCENES and OLD TIMES

YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY - PUBLICATION -

No. 60

January 1989

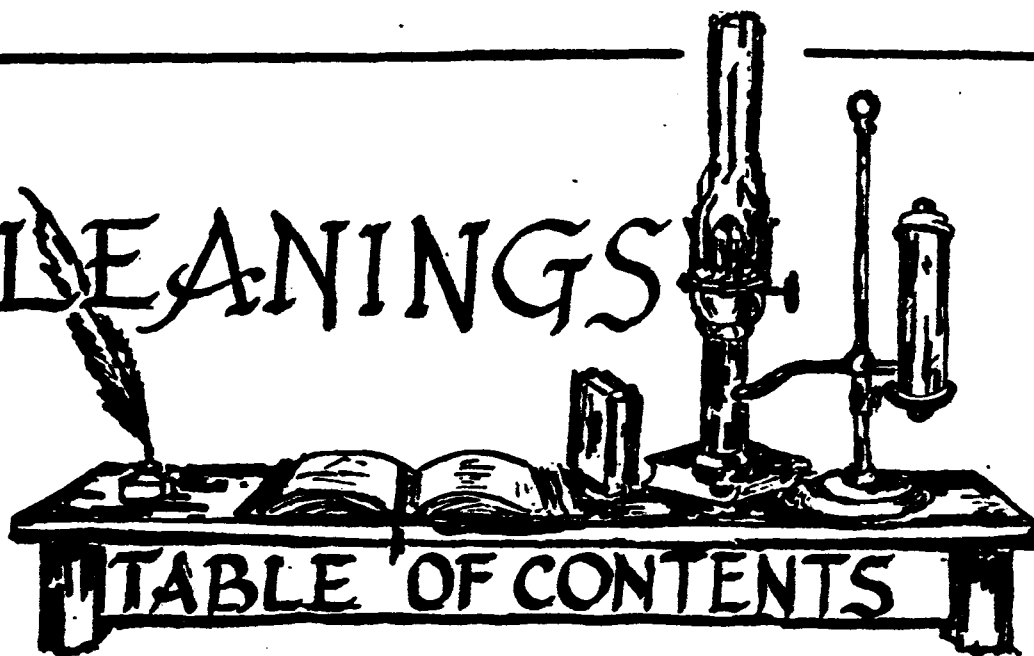


Ypsilanti Historical Museum  
• 220 N. Huron Street •

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# GLEANINGS



No 60

January 1989

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Billie Zolkosky

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Office of Ypsilanti Historical Society is at 220 N. Huron Street  
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48197

Message from your President:

Dear Members,

Wasn't the Christmas Open House beautiful and exciting this year at the Museum? We owe the ladies and gentlemen who did such a beautiful job of decorating the Museum a big Thank You for their efforts. We had more than ample refreshments for all our visitors and I believe we may have set a record for attendance for a Christmas Open House.

Marge Gauntlett and her helpers did a wonderful job with the Sales Case in it's new location. The many new items and larger display area generated a very brisk business.

We have made some progress in straightening up and sorting the many items in the basement in preparation for the construction of the new entrance and exit to the basement early this year.

A Ypsilanti Historical Society sponsored rummage and yard sale is planned for this year as a money raiser, probably before the Heritage Festival. Be sure and save your "good rummage items" for our sale. The date will be in the next issue of the "Gleanings".

We will hold an open house at the Lewis House for prospective buyers who want to view it before bidding on it. The open house and bidding information will be published in the Ypsilanti Press and the Ann Arbor News.

We need your support, please remember to pay your dues.

Jack C. Miller  
President-Ypsilanti Historical Society

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
October 6, 1988

The meeting of the Ypsilanti Historical Society was called to order at 7:30 p.m., by the President Jack Miller, 10 members present.

Ann McCarthy was excused.

Motion not finished at September meeting to replace the Contribution Box that Bill Edmunds brought was to be put in the Hall and Bill Ealy, Treasurer to empty it when he came down, saving the problem of anyone else do so. Earnest GRiffin seconded, Motion carried. He will pick up the key.

Minutes were read and accepted as read.

Treasurer's report was read and placed on file.

Sharon made a motion that LaVerne Howard donations be tabled until Katherine Howard be asked if she wanted that to go into the Endowment Fund. A second was made and motion was carried.

Jack Miller is asking the City to waive the \$200.00 fee for changing Lewis House from R # to R 2. He is waiting for City Manager's reply.

Sharon has requested a copy of the revised Constitution of 1982.

New Business: Sharon reported the Annual Dinner will be November 13th at the new Masonic Temple on Whittaker Road. Speaker will be announce Tickets were given to Board Members and to the Office and should be returned by the November meeting. Tickets have been donated by Rex & Sally Richie of Miller's Ice Cream Parlor.

Doris made a motion to give 2 complimentary tickets to Rex and Sally Marge seconded, Motion carried.

It was reported the Festival of Lights will be open November 20th. Can the Museum be open at that time? It was not feasible. CAN Window candles be put up by that time, Doris thought that would be possible.

Jack and Doris are going to take care of the basement.

REx Richie will take care of the Basement Ramp after grant money is in.

Doris reported the Craft Show will be October 15th-10A.M to 4pm.

Doris made a motion to investigate getting cards for Memorials that are sent in. Mike Miller seconded. Motion carried. Motion amended to include cards for Endowment/Trust Fund. Motion carried. Mary Miller and Sharon Patterson will assist her.

Jack welcomed the new members. Mary Miller, Marge Gauntlett, Rex Richie and Carroll Osburn has been re-elected.

October Minutes-Page 2

A request was made by me to allow me to go to the Archivists' seminar in Detroit at the Detroit Public Library October 27th. Jack made a motion for me to do so, Doris seconded, Motion carried. Motion was amended to include anyone else that cared to go. Motion carried. Charge is \$16.50. Bill Edmunds made a motion that \$100.00 be put at my disposal to purchase materials that would help to preserve materials in the office. A Second was made, Motion carried.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Zolkosky

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
November 3, 1988

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ypsilanti Historical Society was called to order at 7:30 P.M., November 3, 1988 by the President Jack Miller.

There were 12 members present.

The Minutes were read and a correction of Jack Miller requesting \$200.00 zoning fee be waived, it is a Filing fee for rezoning request.

Treasurer's report was read by the Treasurer, Bill Ealy. Accepted and placed on file.

Old Buisness: It was reported approximately 80 tickets have been sold so far with good prospects for many more to be sold. Sharon will get final count by November 10th.

Rex Richie brought plans for the basement ramp. Straw will be put down across the back soon. Bill Edmunds will furnish the straw.

Lewis House: Jack Miller will be meeting with John Barr hopefully next week to settle about Lewis House. Discussion followed.

Rex Richie and Earnest Griffin were appointed to the Board of the Lewis House with Bill Edmunds.

Bill Ealy asked where the money for the basement ramp was coming from. Bill Edmunds explained grant money has been requested and will not be completed until May.

Bill Edmunds brought up about the Memorial Book. Marge Gauntlett will look into purchasing one, \$100.00 alloted for it.

Doris reported on the Craft Show that was held last month. It was a huge success, about 12-14 Artisians displayed their wares and demonstrated. There were about 75 Visitors to the Museum.

Open House will be December 11th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Gift Shop is going to be open DEcember 7th,8th and 9th from 10:00 A.M., until 12:00 Noon for anyone to come in and purchase some of the lovely articles Marge has to sell.

Bill Edmunds spoke about seeing how Clements Library takes care of their Historic articles.

I reported on the Seminar that I attended at the Detroit Public Library in October. It was interesting and very informative, however it is not a way that could be used here. Some of their ideas could be instigated here tho.

Front Urns are to be emptied.

November Minutes- page 2

A motion was made by Mike Miller for the decorating committee to have Some money to buy decorations, about \$250.00, Doris amended the motion to read not to exceed \$250.00. Mary seconded, Motion carried.

There being no further business meeting was adjourned=see you at the dinner.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Zolkosky

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
December 1, 1988

The Meeting of the Board of Director's of the Ypsilanti Historical Society was called to order at 7:30 P.M., December 1, 1988 by the President Jack Miller.

There were 11 members present. Doris Milliman was excused.

Minutes were read and accepted.

Treasurer's report was read and placed on file.

Old Business: Jack and Bill Ealy discussed the lock on the front door, it had been left unlocked one night but the security lock was on. They suggested another lock be installed perhaps a Dead Bolt. Bill and Jack will take care of it. Carroll Osburn is going to repair the door handle.

Jack reported what a huge success the Annual Dinner was, Speaker was outstanding, dinner excellent and served well. All in All we certainly credit Sharon Patterson for a job well done.

Jack reported a plumber had to be called in to take care of a problem at Lewis House. Leak has been located. Rex Richie has stated he will take care of it and do repairs.

Sharon reported John Barr is working on Endowment Plan-Has a Law Clerk working on the plans. Hopefully after the first of the year papers will be drawn up for approval. Sharon shared the card picked for Memorial remembrances, Discussion followed-It was voted unanimously to order them.

Jack and Earnest have cleaned the basement and are rearranging it so it can be used. Some articles to go.

Letter to be sent to Patsy Chandler thanking her for the Oriental rugs from Lewis House.

Mary Miller made a motion to get a light fixture for the back hall. Ron had seen one at Materials Unlimited. Carroll seconded Motion was carried.

Marge Gauntlett is to buy 2 Memorial Books for the Society. \$100.00 has been allotted.

Mike Miller made a motion to buy an artifical tree after Christmas. Discussion followed and Carroll Osborn made a motion not to have a tree. Both motions were tabled.

Jack reported the Museum is a receipant of a bequest from Gertrude Nanry's Estate. It is to be used for the benefit of the Museum. Jack will draft a proposal to the City as to where and what the money will be used for. It does not have to be used immediately. There are some renovations to be made and



Board Minutes-December 1, 1988  
Page 2.

some of it can go to do them.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Billie Zolkosky

## ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

This Committee was formed in 1972 when it was called The Presentation and was chaired by Mrs. Mildred Harris. It's purpose was to care for the Museum, plan it's activities, manage the Sales Case, Schedule Guides, Publicize the Museum, Record Oral History, Care for the Plants in the Solarium, Plan for the Furniture Arrangement and Schedule Groups that wish to visit the Museum. The ten present committee members are continuing those same duties, each member sharing in the responsibility. All members have worked diligently this past year.

Besides the everyday activites, this committee has planned and hosted several special events, namely; A Craft Show in October, the Christmas Open House when the Museum is beautifully decorated, a Work Shop for the Guides, A Luncheon for the Guides, helping with the Festival and the Reception for the visiting Mayor during Michigan Week. All of these events require much planning and work for Committee Members. We appreciate the fine cooperation of the members of the Board and especially the President, Mr. LaVerne Howard.

We regret that Deci Howard will no longer care for the Solarium but will act as a resource person for questions about the plants. She has served on this committee for 16 years as a loyal member.

Three new members were added to the Committee this year: Virginia Davis, Grace Cornish and Betty Kerr and one member, Betty Tunnicliffe resigned. Other members of the Committee include, Marjorie Gauntlett, Kathryn Howard, Eileen Harrison, Ann McCarthy, Museum Director, Billie Wardell, and the Chairman, Doris Milliman.

Doris Milliman  
Chairman

## HISTORIAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Historian's position is a challenging and an interesting one for it encompasses several activities. When she isn't involved with research requests, she is working on the organization of the Historical materials in the collection. These are in the form of newspaper clippings, books, diaries, letters, scrap books, pictures, etc.

There are requests for genealogy information from many areas of the United States which require research and letter writing. These requests are usually about family members who once lived here and or died here.

Our records show that some of the frequent walk-in requests have been for Elijah McCoy, the Gilbert House, the Water Tower, Depot Town and Preston Tucker, as well as for information about some of the older homes in the City.

Other activities of the Historian during the past year include attending meetings of the Washtenaw Historical Society; Speaking to members of the Washtenaw County Genealogical Society to acquaint those members about our resources; and attending the 15th Anniversary of the Michigan Historical Commission which was held in Lansing.

Doris Milliman  
Historian

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Message from Marge Gauntlett  
Museum Gift Shop

GIFT SHOP  
INVENTORY HALF PRICE SALE  
JANUARY---FEBRUARY 12,1989  
YPSILANTI HISTORICAL  
M U S E U M  
HOURS: WEEKENDS- 2-4 p.m.  
MORNINGS- 9-12noon

The Gift Shop is having an Inventory Sale in January and February 1989. All items can be purchased at 1/2 off the ticketed price.

Take advantage of these low prices and support your Historical Society.

We wish everyone a Happy New year and send a Special Thank You to Betty Tunnicliffe who is a loyal supporter of the Museum.

Marge Gauntlett

THE  
"REAL McCOY"  
OF  
YPSILANTI

This book has been donated to the Archival Collection by the Author, Mr. A.P. Marshall who has done much research on the McCoy Family, with the emphasis on Elija, The Inventor.

The author states in the introduction "Almost everyone with an interest in the History of Ypsilanti knows that Elija McCoy was an inventor who lived here in the distant past. Because of the nature of available materials on him, however, few people know enough to really appreciate his contributions to the City. For years Detroiters only knew him as having lived there, but nothing about his earlier life in the City named for the Greek Patriot"

This book will answer a need for material on Elija McCoy for whom there are many requests. The book contains several photographs and illustrations of his inventions.

Doris Milliman  
Historian

We have a few copies available in the Sales Case you may purchase for your library.

# Acquisitions

We are grateful for the following acquisitions that has been received.

Miss Mary Campbell

J.P. Coats Thread Box-Mementos from  
Presbyterian Church  
The Story of Willow Run

Mrs. Nell Barrett

Mrs. W. Kitcher

Lace Trimmed Handkerchief over 100  
years old.

Mrs. Katherine Howard

Glue Pot

Mr & Mrs Don Porter

Large Basket on Wheels  
Blue & White Fringed Coverlet

Anonymous

Black and White Checkered Dress  
Mink Colored Velvet Dress  
Maroon Silk Blouse



## TOLL GATE - SUMMIT FARM

Although it is nearly covered with bushes, the Toll Gate Marker at 1705 West Michigan Avenue is visible. The Marker is at the site of a Toll Gate on the Detroit-Saline Plank Road which is now Michigan Avenue.

The Plaque reads:

"This Tablet marks the site of the Summit Farm Toll Gate on the Detroit-Saline Plank Road. Chartered in 1848. Placed by Ypsilanti Chapter DAR in 1938".

In the archives, there is a story relating to the Toll Gate which was operated by Steven Yates. In order to avoid paying the Toll, Farmers built an extension to Congress Street which ended at Hewitt Road where they returned to the main road. The Toll Company retaliated by putting up a branch gate to the West, one half mile . Even Begole, a farmer, angered by this action, took an Axe and a Team, smashed the gate and dragged it away. He was arrested and fined, but the Grange stood the expense of the escapade and the incident is credited with being the end for the Toll Gate.

Doris Milliman



LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL  
HISTORY 1924

The material for this booklet was collected and presented to the Archives by Dr. David Flower who not only did the research on Lincoln High School, but also on one room schools in the area. It is well illustrated with Maps and Pictures of the Buildings.

Mr. Flower, has also donated material on numerous members of the Horace Pitts Hammond Family.

Doris Milliman  
Historian



## 1888 in Ypsilanti

### Items from the Chronicle Ypsilanti's Newspaper

April 1888-New Catholic Cemetery purchased by Rev. Father DeBever.  
14 Acres-\$1,400.00.

Tues-4th- E.W. Grant's Planing Mill burned. Fire Department crippled by lack of water in cistern at Congress and Washington and by bursting of hose moving to Pressure necessary to force water up hill from the River. Loss \$30,000.00.

May 12th- Diary of Mrs. A.B. Norton says her husband commenced work on the Vault at the Catholic Cemetery.

Oct 16th- 8:15 A.M. Boiler exploded at Ypsilanti Paper Co's Lowell Plant-Jacob Slawson killed. Frank Sinkule, Engineer injured.  
\$20,00.00 damage.

18th- Reunion of 20th Michigan Infantry. 150 present.

23rd. Martin Cremer succeeded Frances L. Stewart as Postmaster.

31st. Rev. Dr. Samuel Francis Smith composer of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" assisted in marriage of L. Loring Brooks in Ypsilanti.

## 1889

Nov. 18th. Starkweather Memorial Chapel accepted by Highland Cemetery Association.

Dec 1st- City Free Mail Delivery began.

Mar 10. Fire at Ypsilanti Sanitarium. \$6,000.00 damage.

July 17th--- First Connection from New York City Water Plant made at House of C. Cornwell on River Street.

July 26th- Article speaks on Gang on Men putting in Foundation for Standpipe at Normal and digging trench to it up Cross Street  
Rate established at \$5.00 per Family per year.

William Lambie Diary -1891

January

1. All went to Roberts for grand dinner. The nights seem so long and I am so weary for the dawn.
2. Mrs. L and Mary went to Town in Robert's buggy. Brought the clothes from Rings. Made Hop Bitters. Read James Hamilton's marriage. (William Lambie's Mother was Mary Hamilton).
5. Mrs. L had Dr. Watling fill a tooth. Rssting a lot and wishing I could feel better still.
7. Frank & William Campbell drove past Belleville to pay taxes on land in Sumpter.  
Brother Robert came to see me in my sickness.
12. Mrs. Thomas Clark and daughter came. Dr. Frazier's medicine is pleasant to take and seems to be helping me.  
Received a letter from James Hamilton, Glasgow, with his wedding card.
16. Robert took 3 big loads of corn to Town. Letter from Anna.  
Frank working on the Miller's Farm.
21. Drove to Town and got more medicine from Dr. Frazier. Robert was offered only 90 cents for the beans after all his work and expense.
25. A day for Scotchmen to celebrate-Burn's Anniversay.  
The cow Robert bot from Knapp had a calf.
28. Robert cleaning beans with Roll's Farming Mill.  
Frank working on his farm. Hens beginning to lay. 18 eggs today.
29. Called on Dr. Kinney and consulted him and got medicine.
30. Mrs. L and I walked to the old home and found old Mrs. Crippen had falled and hurt herself.
31. Got medicine from Dimick-the prescription from Dr. Kinney was something neither Samson nor Frank Smith had. Robert bot a grist.

February

3. Robert taking beans to Market. Frank cutting tamaracks on his farm.
5. Mrs. Fletcher, Mary and Willie went to Uncle Williams on the Street Car.
6. Robert came to get his Mother to see Hattie and found she had the Mumps. Robert took about a ton of Hay to Ring.
12. Walked to the old home and cut some bushes. Tired and got a good rest in the sunshine.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

February

17. A good rain in the night. The brook overflowing it's banks. Belle and her Mother went to Uncle Williams on the Street Car and the Conductor failed to let them off so they went to Ann Arbor and back.
18. Wrote to Sister Mary and Catherine that I was too sick to come and see Mother on the 20th, her 94th Birthday.
19. Mrs. L walked to Roberts to help Hattie to take care of Minnie, who is sick with the Mumps. Frank came with McLoud to Dinner.
22. Cold blasts-stayed at home. Azro's Father and his new wife went to Church and came home with Mrs. L, Mary and Azro's family to dinner. Brother Robert and Uncle Andrew made us a welcome visit.
25. Walked down to Roberts-his wife and Minnie are better. Now Leah has the Mumps. He lost a good sheep and is thinking of leaving the Farm and working in Town.

March

2. Cold and dreary-Wearying for sunshine. Walked down to Roberts and came back in a snowstorm.
4. Mr & Mrs Fletcher, Mary and Willie went to visit Mr. Hewens. One of the sad days of life, received two letters informing of Brother Frank's death, the first break in a family of 9 in over 50 years.
5. Brother Robert and I not well enough to go to Brother Frank's funeral so Frank and Robert went in place of us. Sister and her son James, Mr & Mrs John Lambie, William Todd attended and saw brother Francis laid in the cold ground. Mother failing in mind and body.
7. Frank went off with his gun. Wrote W. Naismith regarding Brother Frank's death. received 3 bags of clover seed from John Campbell.
9. The first Robin-5 are in the doorway tree. Robert brot us butter. Frank took clover seed to his farm.
15. Clipped a notice regarding Brother Frank for the Free Press and sent it to Mr. Naismith.
22. Mild and Muddy, Was able to go to Church. Minister talking about enlarging the Church.
24. Bot a bushel of Timothy seed from Ainsworth, Frank and John Miller trimming his Orchard. Drew out straw and manure and put it around the currant bushes.
31. Hens laying about 2 dozen eggs a day. The Barton House was sold for \$30.00.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

March

30. Spread manure in forenoon. A letter from Mr. Naismith regarding Frank's property. It seems to be a sad death and a sad settlement.

April

1. Frank bot a gray horse from Mr. Beeck for what he owed his Mother- bot garden seed from J. Thompson- Mary got a fine letter from Anna. Frank went with G. McDougal's son to work on a shed.
3. Robert brot word that another little girl was born at his home this morning. Mrs L walked down to help. Robert, Leah and Minnie staying up here.
6. Cut stumps in the clover field. J. Ross finished sowing clover seed. Set out some goosberry bushes.
8. Went to Mr. Phillips about grapes and trees. Robert sold 30 bushels of corn. Getting 20 to 40 eggs every day.
10. Robert sold 35 bushels wheat for 35 cents and paid me \$20. Set out turnips- sold first green tree for 50 cents to A. Graves.
15. Mr. Birthday- three score and ten. I have lived man's appointed time upon earth. My eyes are not very din nor is my strength. Mr. & Mrs Fletcher, Willie, Leah and Minnie came to dinner. Called on Mr. Gray and saw through his fine home. Got 100 strawberry plants from him. Mary, Mrs. F and Belle helped set them out. Read in the News that McMillens could not claim the property Frank Lambie left at his death.
17. Went with Frank up to his farm on North Prospect and back over it through bogs and swamps to land worth improving. Brother Robert came to see about the property Brother Frank left going to his own friends.
18. James Inglis sent saying Mother should be Brother Frank's heir. Brother Robert said he would rather trust James than Detroit lawyers. Sent a letter to Agnes we would not go to Law.
23. Received trees from Ann Arbor but none from Monroe. Mary, Mrs. F, Willie, Leah and Minnie went to Belles to celebrate Willie's Birthday.

May

2. Robert's black mare had a foal. The trees came from Monroe at last. Mr. Vail hailed us as we passed. They came by Express-free. Mary and I set out about 40 green trees by night.
8. J. Renton, blacksmith-mill-wright repaired the big buggy. Carried the potatoes out of the Cellar and Robert and I worked hard planting them.
13. Took a barrell of seed corn to Robert. Ross planting corn in the field north of the brook.
14. Deposited \$100 in the Bank. Azro and I went to see the great sale of City Lots on what used to be the William Watling Farm.

William Lambie Diary -1891

May

21. Longing for rain. Robert and Ron planting corn in field near Norton's Corners. Thundershowers at last.
22. Wife and I went on the Excursion to Detroit. Walked to Mother's home. One of the grandest days of my life.
25. The Advertiser came all the way from Scotland in nine days. Frank and Robert took away the old family wagon we had for over 30 years and brot back a new one.
27. Fox shore Robert's sheep- 24 old sheep and 14 lambs.
29. Mrs. L and I drove to Uncle Andrews-nothome-drove to Uncle Williams not home either. A shower bothered the Street Cars too.

June

1. Glorious day. Robert and Fox cleaning out the brook.
2. Azro sprayed Robert's orchard and then I drove the horses as he sprayed ours. Worked in the garden-a few strawberries ripe.
5. Bot a carpet from Rexford I thought we did not need.
8. Went with Frank past Kimmels. Mrs Fletcher gave me a fine breakfast on the way back.
9. Called on Mrs. Mann, Mr & Mrs Alban and Mr. Wilbur, Robert and Ross carried the stove to the wood house.. Mrs Ring and others cleaning the house.
12. Sold 2 bushels of potatoes to L Davis at 85 cents a bushel. Minister Morey went past thrice to gather ferns and flowers to decorate the Church for Children's Day.
15. Went with Frank to Fifely & Millers Corners-picked peas and some big strawberries in our garden. Sprayed and brushed buggs off the potato plants and then sprouted the potatoes in the Cellar. Showers in late afternoon.
18. Robert sold the wool to Ainsworth aobut 184 lbs-24 fleeces at 22 cents-\$40.80. Robert bot a horse from Cornwell. Mr. Hewens paid interest.
22. Longest day in lovely June. Battling agsinst the weeds and bugs this long summer day. About 90 in the shade.
26. Mrs. L drove Mary over to Azros and then took Anna to the dentist. Belle picked 50 quarts of strawberries.
27. Sold two bushels potatoes to L. Davis for two silver dollars. Robert brot papers-the Free Press stating at the Probate Court Ann Lambie(William's Mother) right in Frank's property belonged to the Lambies.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

June

30. Mrs. L's Birthday. Robert got in 3 loads of hay in prime order on Frank's new wagon. Belle picked a fine lot of cherries. Dug potatoes, very small. A paper from Prof. G. Campbell-his son seems to be the best scholar in Dartmouth College. Goodbye to joyful June.

July

1. Bright beautiful balmy day. Helped the field as long as I was able. Paid \$8 in VanTyls store for our Church seat rent for year.
3. Andrew Campbell came with a paper by Mary and Catherine Lambie requesting a guardian be placed over Mary Lambie(Mother in Windsor) at the settlement of the deceased Francis Lambie's Estate. Fine crop of Cherries and Currants.
6. Fed the horse before sunrise and went to Town early and on the Street Railway to Ann Arbor. Had dinner and pleasant meeting with R. Campbell and family. Robert finished harvesting wheat for Theodore and reaped part of Harrises.
8. Cool morning-had to put on a flannel-Robert reaped his 10 acre field on the east high corner. Ross and Fox set up and capped the shocks.
13. Days a little shorter. I mowed the wheat around the trees on both fields. Azro came to get the reaper.
14. Expected to get new potatoes on the 4th of July but did not get them until today. Robert and his men drew in the Hay on the Miller farm.
16. John Ross drew wheat with Robert's team and Theodore with his team and got the wheat all in the barn.
18. Dug good potatoes for ourselves and son and brother Robert. Frank and Near went with Near's horse. Ross and Fox got the wagon to draw in Frank's wheat. Robert racked the stubble. Frank repaired the M\_\_\_\_\_ barn that the lightning hit.
23. Robert and Ross got a new plow to plow the Miller farm. Very hot and dry. The Sunflower leaves wilted. Anna picked some Early Joe Apples. Paid Dr. Frazier for Medicine.
25. Got some papers from Brother Robert and gave him some potatoes. William Campbell came and went with Robert to see Frank's farm.
29. Renton shod Eagle. Thompson wanted to sell us a carriage for \$115. A shower went around the North and around the South. We got only a few drops.
31. J. Ross cradling a good crop of Pats. More Early Joe Apples.

August

3. Robert reaping Oats with a new reaper. Ross and Fox binding Oats. Set up shocks till I was weary.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

August

5. Wife and I went to Detroit and Canada to see great Army of Soldiers the G.A.R. crowd were great. Mother sat up most of the day and when my wife sang "My Ain Countree". Mother clapped her hands. The Windsor people had a great Arch to welcome the American Soldiers. Mrs. Smith (Kate Inglis) arrived and Mrs. Fletcher met her and children at the Depot.
6. Cleaned the hen house. No wealth, honor or pleasure doing that. Anna went for Mary and brot Mrs. F and Willie and Mrs. Smith with her two girls.
7. Dan Campbell and his young wife came. Azro borrowed our horse and did not return it as expected. Hattie had to carry Robert's dinner to him in the heat.
8. Azro brought up Mr. Smith. I called on brother Robert. Oppressing heat. 97 in the shade.
10. Went with Frank to Mr. Gills. Called at Azros and found Mr & Mrs Smith and two children. Clare came and took Mrs L to his Fathers.
13. Frank and I went to P. Gills. Azro and Mr. Smith with their families took tea at Brother Roberts.
25. Cool clear morning. Exposition begins. Anna got a telegram from Duluth.
7. Went to see Azro and old Mr. Wilbur. Called on Belle and we cheered one another. Got the harness mended adn called on Robert's empty house.
29. Frank went to the Detroit Exposition. Wife and I went to Ann Arobr with presents for Mr & Mrs Robert Campbell's 30th Wedding Day. A grand party of friends. But we were all sad when we learned Uncle Andrew's barn , his hay and 7 horses were all burned last Friday night. He had hard work to save his home. Loss about \$3,000. With all his loss he was Master of himself and laughed and sang like the others.

September

2. Went to the Exposition and Canada. Mother sat up some. Her thoughts wandered. Mary and Catherine anxious to get justice from James. Enjoyed seeing the horses, sheep and cattle at the Exposition.
4. Robert got coal for the Thrashers. Dug potatoes and called on Aunt Eunice. Gathered pears.
7. Old Mrs. Wilbur died. Harvey thrashed 311 bushels Oats and 117 bushels of wheat at Roberts and 101 bushels of Oats and 153 bushels wheat up here.
8. Went with Mary to Azros where they are thrashing. Took Mr. Smith and his trunk to the Depot. Went with Robert to old Mrs. Wilbur's funeral.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

September

10. Bob Martin put 300 sheep on Robert pasture. Robert brot Frank home to settle with Harvey James and John Miller so that Frank could have entire control of what used to be the Miller Farm.
11. Martin took away 401 sheep after they had about spoiled Robert's pasture and paid \$15.  
Heard of old Mr. King's death.
14. Went with Frank to Mr. Fills about sunrise. Attended Mr. King's funeral Mrs. Hewens paid some money. Robert's cow could not be found.
15. Belle ran all the way to ell us she found one cow. Robert found the other. Mrs Hilt and the two Mrs. Campbell came to visit.
17. Mrs. F, Willie, Mrs. Smith and two girls, Mary and I went to the Fair. Saw the balloon go up.
18. Very warm. Mrs. Fletcher got the first premium on butter. We got the second premium on carrots and parsnips.
24. Uncle Andrew came. Frank went to the Plymouth Fair. Called on the Florist at the Depot and found him to be a poet.
28. Frank's Birthday. Mr & Mrs. Smith and the girls called on their way to Ohio. Longing for rain.
30. Went to Mrs. Hewens for a ram-paid \$7.-he jumped out of the buggy and it tired me catching him. Mrs. McConachie came at night. (A Campbell relative)

October

1. Mr. McConachie, Mrs. L and I went to the City of the dead in Augusta and then to Mrs. Hewens sale and met a number of friends.
2. Rode up on the Motor to Ann Arbor Fair-was very tired and met few friends. Frank put the Hewens ram with Robert's sheep.
5. Robert and John helping Frank to thrash. Robert campbell came and paid interest.
6. Frank got all his crops thrashed. Brot two loads here. Brother Robert came and got garden potatoes. Mary, Mr & Mrs F, Willie and I went to a Social. A grand supper and ice cream at the Church.
9. Frank brot a load of tamarack for stove wood. Dug rows of big peach blow potatoes.
10. Frank and Robert brot us a new surrey and Frank got a new Top buggy.
17. Still digging potatoes. Robert's marsh now a productive potato field.
23. Robert brot up two loads of potatoes and put them in the Cellar.
3. Went to see Mother in Windsor. She was glad to see me, very weak in body and mind-hope Mary and Catherine will be rewarded for taking care of her night and day for years.



William Lambie Diary - 1891

October

29. Mary and Belle helped gather apples in the one horse wagon-nearly all blown down by the high winds.

November

3. Ice and ground hard-gathered basket of late peaches. Robert drew gravel for the road.
5. Pulled turnips. Belle and Mrs. W. Campbell came. Mr. Allison sent two Australian papers. Mary, Belle and I went to F. Bennetts burial, the last for another neighbor.
6. Mr & Mrs Fletcher went to Uncle Andrews barn raising in the morning. Mary and I went in the afternoon. A good frame, hard work and dangerous. Frank did as much shouting as Les Yost would do for \$10.00.
9. Mild morning-Like spring. Got the turnips in the basement. Called on the gardener at the Depot.
11. Went to Detroit. Called on sister Agnes and Mother-Met Uncle Andrew at Mothers. James' store shut up.
4. Mrs. Fletcher, Mary and Willie went to Uncle Williams. Sent a Michigan book to the Stravan Library. My letter in the Farmer about sheep. Frank bot 20 acres from Mrs. Loveridge. Saw a grand eclipse of the Moon..
7. Mrs L went with Mary to Azros. Robert took stalks to Town and helped set up the Coal Stove.
3. Belle and I carried apples down Cellar. Mr & Mrs Ross moved on Frank's farm. Cold rain and blasts of wind.
5. Thanksgiving-Robert brot up 3 loads of corn. Mr & Mrs Scotney came to dinner.
7. Martin brot a good cord of wood to keep us warm. Paid him \$3.75 and sawed some stove wood.

December

1. Mr. Calhoun paid interest for a bushel of onions. Mrs L, Mary and Willie went to a Church meeting in the Surrey.
5. Plenty of snow.Robert came for the Bob-Sleigh.
0. Mild and muddy again. Uncle William called on us.
3. Anna's Birthday.
7. Robert brot 2 loads of stalks.Anna sent word she intends to come home Saturday. Robert brot two cows from Knapp, one for heimself and one for his Mother.

William Lambie Diary - 1891

December

19. Paid our Tax on the old farm home \$17.29. Frank paid other Taxes. Robert brot up Anna from her School at Elkhart.
24. The girls went to the old home and cut a green tree for Christmas. Sister Agnes sent Christmas presents.
25. Christmas-23 years since father died. Had a royal feast and Turkey for dinner. Robert, Hattie and the 3 girls, Mr & Mrs Fletcher and Willie, Mr & Mrs Scotney. Frank was here to carve the Turkey. A pleasant gathering of friends.
29. Dark and damp and some snow. Bot ink, paper and oil from Samson.
31. Wife got medicine from Dr. Frazier for Anna. Farewell good year of niney one- May we do better in days to come.

## News from the Archives Office

Another year is upon us and brings us more obstacles to overcome so we can become stronger and look forward to conquering many more this year.

I trust everyone enjoyed their holidays.

As I look out my window to enjoy the Birds eating at the feeder, the squirrel eating at the window it really looks like Spring. It isn't such a bad world after all.

Now I must get down to the Nitty Gritty-January is the month to pay bills, don't forget us. Dues are due. I have enclosed a renewal sheet in the back of the Gleanings so all you have to do is to tear it out and return it with your check, then I won't have to bill you--(This will save on postage) Remember if you have any questions just call me and I shall assist in any way I can-If you are a Life Member you do not have to renew your membership.

It was nice to see so many at the Annual Dinner. An what a lovely time everyone had. Thank you Rene for a fine job in getting all the prizes. I even won the Squash Award. Thank you.

There have been several students in to look up history on houses and businesses in the area. Altho we don't have a lot of out of Towners in during the winter we do have quite a bit of correspondence by mail with people looking for information, so Doris and I keep busy but we are never too busy to chat with you.

Hopefully you were able to visit the Museum during the Christmas Season to see your Museum decorated. The time and effort the folks spend on it is certainly appreciated. It was lovely.

We are very sorry to hear of the death of Rote Holmes(Ada Holmes brother).

Earnest Griffin just stopped by to show us a new book he just bought on Michigan Railroads. It is interesting especially to those of us who remember riding on the railroad.

Again I Thank Renee and Frank Burgess for helping to assemble the Gleanings. They are great people.

See you during Marge GAuntlett's Special Clearance Sale.

Billie Zolkosky  
Archivist/ Secretary-Ypsilanti Historical Society

Arthur Howard shared this poem with us and I thought you may enjoy it.

### I'm Fine Thanks

There is nothing the matter with me,  
I'm as healthy as can be.  
I have arthritis in both of my knees,  
And when I talk, I talk with a  
wheeze.

My pulse is weak and my blood  
is thin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape  
I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet,  
or I wouldn't be able to be on  
the street.

Sleep is denied me, night after  
night,  
But every morning I find I'm all right.  
My memory is failing, my head's in  
a spin,  
But I'm awfully well for the shape  
I'm in.

The moral is this, as this tale  
I unfold,  
That for you and me who are  
growing old,  
It's better to say "I'm fine," with  
a grin,  
Than to let folks know the shape we  
are in.

How do I know that my youth is all  
spent?  
Well, my "get up and go" has got  
up and went.  
But I really don't mind when I think  
with a grin,  
Of all the grand places "my get up"  
has been.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said,  
But sometimes I wonder as I get  
into bed,  
With my ears in the drawer, my teeth  
in a cup,  
My eyes on the table until I wake up,  
Ere sleep comes o'er me, I say  
to myself  
Is there anything else I could lay  
on the shelf.

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YPSILANTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY

220 North Huron Street

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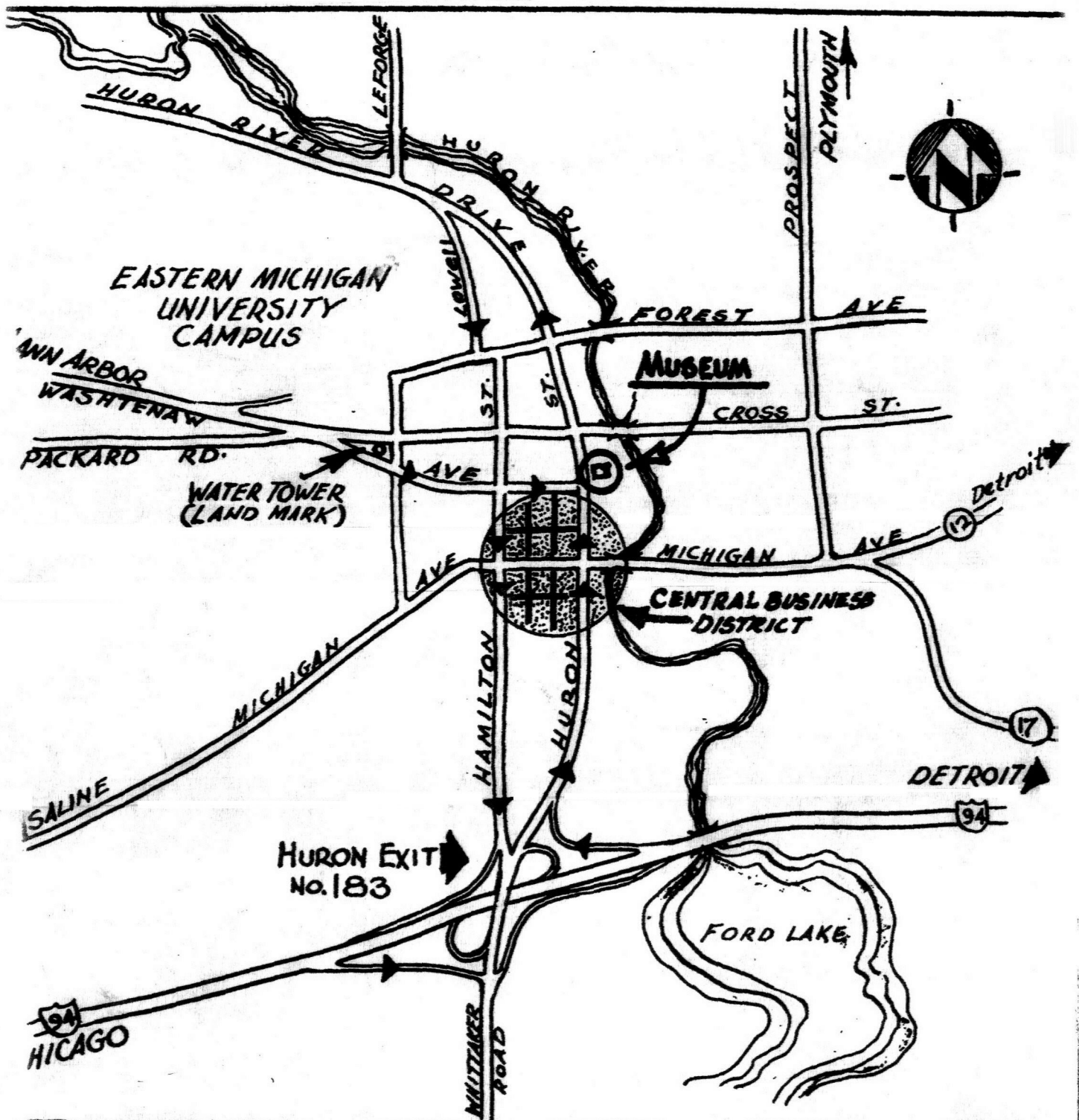
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