

**IN MEMORY OF  
THE PIONEERS OF PARKMAN  
OUR FIGHTING MEN  
ALL CITIZENS OF PARKMAN  
IN THE FIRST CENTURY AND A HALF**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO**

**Typing by (completed in 1976):**

Dawn Hall

Arlene Gotham

Madelaine Dietz

**Sketches by:**

Mrs. Carl Koelkebeck

**Sponsored by:**

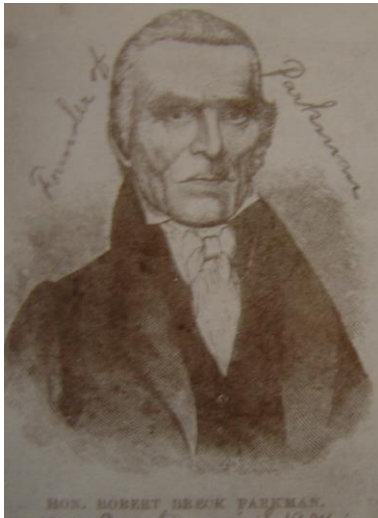
Parkman Mothers Club

**Digitally Archived (gently completed in 2022) by:**

Cory Anderson (adding digital photos instead of sketches)

A sesquicentennial recap of Parkman's first 150 years.

It was the Grand River that made Parkman. It may seem only an idle summer stream to us today, flowing its carefree way. But once, it lived up to its name, and the little village sprawled along its beautiful banks, one hundred and some years ago was one of Geauga County's most important towns; twice its present size. Waterwheels and mills of all sorts including foundries, grist mills and many more enticed many pioneers, including Samuel Parkman and his associates who bought seventeen thousand and six hundred acres in the sight of the beautiful river. The six hundred acres were set aside for the village. Mose Warren was the first surveyor, then Samuel's



nephew became interested. He realized the capabilities and possibilities. In 1803 he married Lucy Phelps, daughter of Judge Phelps of Aurora, New York. Their 1804 bridal journey was by horseback. Later when Mrs. Parkman came, they made it by water and horseback. The road was very rough and Mrs. Parkman carried the baby in her arms and walked. In 1804 the legislature appropriated fourteen hundred dollars toward a road through Trumbull County, which then included Geauga County. Mr. Parkman's first object was to secure its location to be most beneficial to Parkman Township. As soon as the location was established, they fell trees with the help of neighboring townships; Nelson, Farmington, and Burton. At the raising of log cabins, Mrs. UMBER field of Burton baked bread which was brought through the woods on horseback while Alfred Phelps, Robert's brother-in-law, broiled pork and together with the milk from Mr. Parkman's cows, which he had brought, comprised the feast. In 1805 Mr. Parkman was appointed postmaster, a position which he held until 1829. In 1805 he contracted with Mr. Zabine Weatherby of Warren to clear a space of one hundred acres north of the square and fence it, paying fourteen hundred dollars. In the autumn they planted wheat, and in 1806 they harvested one thousand bushels of wheat. There was no appliance for winnowing it, so they had to take it to Painesville for grinding.

(Photo above is of Robert Parkman)

Mr. Weatherby built several cabins to accommodate the workmen and Mrs. Weatherby cooked for the men while clearing the land. This land lay north from what is now public square - bordered on the north by Burton Road. In August of 1805 Mr. Young and Mr. Bateman came to Parkman from New York. Mr. Young was a builder and soon had built a few more substantial cabins. He purchased tools from Pittsburg amounting to tow pounds, nineteen schillings and nine dimes. Mr. Bateman had a farm east of center, which was later owned by Mr. Phelps and later by Andrew Hosmer. Mr. Bateman's name was perpetuated by a little stream running through his farm called Bateman's Run. In 1805 the first child in Parkman was born to Robert Parkman who called their first daughter, Adaline. She grew, amid primitive surroundings, to be a common beauty and at the age of eighteen she married Julian C. Huntington of Painesville where she lived until her death.

In 1805 Richard Wallace purchased a farm known as Wallace Farm. In 1806 a grist mill was completed after much planning and many trips to Warren for materials by Mr. Parkman. It was located a little north of the first saw mill on the Grand River, a little above where the last and more grist mill has stood for many years. Mr. Samuel Parkman congratulated his nephew for having acquired a carpenter, a hatter (Kirkland) who had material to start the business, a blacksmith, and a shoemaker. The first marriage in Parkman was that of Mr. Kirkland and the young sister of Mr. Parkman in 1808. As we had no magistrate in Parkman, Mr. Eleazar Hickox of Burton solemnized the marriage. They had a home on the east side of the river nearly across from the grist mill. Mr. Kirkland was a man of fine character and fine education. He was active in helping to sustain early religious worship. He also became a Justice of Peace.

Mr. Moyer was another man of classified education, a graduate of Yale College. He taught the first school in Parkman. He and Mr. Edward Paine assumed the duties of the Clerks of the Supreme Court of Geauga County.

The third house was built by Daniel Evans in 1806. He was a blacksmith, the first one in Parkman. Before he came to Parkman all blacksmith work had to be taken to Warren or Painesville. Mr. Evans' shop was located on the south side of the square. He was called the village blacksmith for forty years. Mr. & Mrs. Evans had a large family. Mrs. Evans was a helpmate to her husband and a most valuable member of the community. Even with her own large family, she could always help others. Mr. Evans purchased a farm, but moved to another state. However, his two sons purchased land nearby. His son, Silas Evans, bought White Thorn Bottom on Farmington Road near the eastern part of the township. He still lived there in 1877, the only pioneer left. Thomas Ainslee, a native of England, came to Ohio in 1806. He built the fourth house west of the square. Mr. Risby also built a log house west of the square and planted the second apple orchard in the village. A log house was built on the south side of the square, an appendage of the blacksmith

shop, and was occupied by the family of Mr. Eldred, successor to Mr. Evans. The bright light from their fireplace together with the blaze from the shop illuminated all space around the town. When Mr. Eldred moved from the town house, it went to decay. In 1848 Marvin Chapin built a store on this site, but it was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Johnston built a shoe store, also used as a post office and the upper part was owned by the Masonic Fraternity. He was post master during the administration of Pierce and Buchanan. Mr. Holombe bought the store and enlarged it; it was then bought by Sherbern Williams and Halstead. In 1872 the building was purchased by John L. More and later purchased by Smith & Phillis.

In 1808 the first frame building was built by Mr. Parkman for use as a store. One of Mr. Parkman's family, Mr. Paine, was clerk and the store was called Parkman & Paine. This was the only store in the western part of the county with the exception of the Hickox store. It was dissolved in 1816 and enlarged until 1877.

In 1810 Ezra Smith of Connecticut purchased a farm east of center on the south side of Farmington Road known as the Ridge Farm. He built a house and planted an orchard. James Smith took over the farm, but moved to the Curtis Farm, and it was later owned by J. R. Brown. The Ridge Farm commanded a beautiful view for thirty miles. In 1812 Lewis Smith, brother of Ezra Smith, came from Middlesex County, Connecticut, joined the army, returned and married Murella Stillman, widow of Jon Stillman who was killed in the War of 1812. He and his father bought land lying west of Thomas Moore. The farm was later owned by William Brown.

In 1812 Mr. Nathan Hanchett, a clothier from Trumbull County, set up in the upper part of the grist mill the first carding machine in town. People coming over rough roads to the grist mill brought wool for carding.

Thomas Moore from Pennsylvania settled on a farm, opposite the Evans' place in 1807. He built a log cabin, then a frame house. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church, and in 1816 they and a few others united in forming a church of that denomination which existed for sixty years. The meetings were held in Mrs. Moore's home for years.

In 1807 Robert Parkman built a house on the north side where one hundred acres were cleared. That same year his second son, Henry Seymore, was the first male child born in Parkman. He grew up, became a pioneer and a civil engineer. He began in that capacity on the Ohio Canal. After a year his health did not warrant his continuance of that profession. He returned to Parkman and later bought the Doty Farm where he remained until his death. Mr. Parkman had planted apple trees on that farm. A few of the trees planted in 1812 were still standing, but most were transferred by John P. Converse to his land where most of them were still standing in 1878.

John Wallworth Parkman died in 1813, this was the first death in Parkman. Mary Wood died in 1817 and was buried in the lower cemetery, where two acres had been reserved and continues as yet.

In 1817, Mrs. Converse, wife of John P. Converse, died after only a year of marriage, leaving an infant. Mr. John P. Converse from Orange County, Vermont, and more recently Cuyugo, New York, came to Parkman in 1818 and purchased a lot on the east side of the village bordered on the west by Middlefield Road and on the south side by Route 422. On the south side was an unfinished house, in the spring he moved it and made a place of entertainment and a hotel until 1833. In 1820 Mr. Parkman and Mr. Converse built and owned a distillery which stood not far from the bridge. It was considered a great addition to the business interests of Parkman Township and furnished a medium of exchange for commodities to Pittsburgh and other markets. After the death of his first wife, Mr. Converse married Hann Parkman, youngest sister of Robert, at Westmoreland, New York. He became one of the most active and untiring businessmen. He built a saw mill, and manufactured linseed oil. This was the only linseed oil business in the vicinity and created a ready market for flax seed, a valuable commodity. In 1822 they erected a paper mill on the river, above the oil mill, that was later made into a flour mill which burned in 1833. Soon after coming to Parkman he bought land and built a cabin. He later built a very substantial house high on the hill which is still standing, known as the Mintern place. He did so much to open up northern Ohio for settlement, that there should be a historical marker out in front of this home telling his story to posterity. Mr. Converse with others contracted to carry mail from Fairport to Poland, Trumbull County. Suitable accommodations for the public were enlarged into a daily four-horse post coach. Previous to that the mail had been carried once a week on horseback. The route traveled through Chardon, Burton, Parkman and Warren. Prior to railroads it was the main line of travel. The route later reached Sandusky, Monroe and Detroit.

In felling timbers in the Spring of 1823 an accident occurred. It was the death of Asa Pattio, one of the workmen. That was the first tragedy to hit Parkman.

In 1810 Mr. Hanchett built a mill for carding and cloth dressing about one mile up the river to which he transferred his business. Mr. & Mrs. Hanchett were original members of the Congregational Church, organized in 1823. The northern part of the Hanchett place was later owned by Noble Rood and is now owned by the Roswell Blair family. They are a very nice family. Their grandfather was

Charles Blair who was a good farmer on Grove Road. Roswell and Vera were his children. Roswell's children are: Evelyn, Dorothy, Vernon, David, and Dale all living in Parkman and Roger and Robert living in Florida and Middlefield

In 1812, Alonza Hosrner came to Parkman when only fourteen years old. He and his brother William, bought a large tract of land extending to Middlefield Road situated on Mesopotamia Road (we call it Nash Road). He married Elizabeth Cooper after the death of his first wife, Asenath Biddlecomb; to whom were born eleven children. During his residence in Parkman of sixty-four years as a boy and a man, he was noted for those qualities which form the staple of American character. With industry, energy, perseverance and self-reliance he laid the foundation of a prosperous life. He died at the age of seventy-nine and was buried with Masonic Rites. Only three persons were living here who had been here in 1812.

Daniel Owen came to Youngstown from Connecticut. In 1800 he moved to Nelson and then to Parkman in 1815. He bought land east of the Wallace Farm. In 1827 the house on the Wallace Farm was destroyed by fire, but he soon replaced it and lived there until his death in 1856 at the age of eighty-nine. Mrs. Owen was a woman of high esteem. She cared for the sick and offered assistance to anyone who needed her services. Daniel Owen's oldest son was Samuel Owen. He owned a portion of the old Owen Farm and resided there. He also bought a farm lying north of the old farm. This land was originally owned by Gideon Bently. Mr. Owen's oldest daughter, Mrs. Swift, still owned the homestead in 1880 and his other daughter, Mrs. Dunn, and son, Rensellear, were living in the township in 1878. Samuel Owen married Emily Griswold, born in Windsor, Canada, in 1844. They had a son named Marvin. Marvin had two sons; Fred and Frank Owen. Fred married Nell Donaldson of one of the pioneer families who lived down in little Ireland. Fred owned the big farm called "Reservation Farm" where many Indian relics and artifacts were found. He built a big barn which still stands. They later sold their farm and moved to Parkman town. They had two daughters: Arlene and Jeanette. Arleen was a teacher, and a good one, for many years. She married Frank Yost from Garrettsville. They had a sweet daughter Nelda who married Ron Friend, a county agent. Nelda is also a teacher. Arleen and Frank also have a son Jack who is well educated and married and lives in California. Jeanette was a very good county nurse and loved by everyone. She married Cliff Warner, also a resident of Parkman. He was a devoted businessman. They have two very well educated sons who live in California. Frank Owen married Ruby Newcomb, also from a pioneer family and had two sons, namely: Melbern and Walter. Ruby died in 1920 during a measles epidemic. Melbern was an energetic and prosperous farmer. He has sold his farm and built a lovely home on Route 422. He married Louise Hawton who worked in the Middlefield Bank for several years and is a very nice lady. Walter Owen is deceased.

One of the early settlers in 1817 was Alexander Dunn from Monroe County, New York. He bought a farm adjoining Mr. Fairbanks on the south road toward Warren. He was a carpenter and immediately began building a schoolhouse and Masonic Lodge. They had school that summer. Alfred Phelps taught in 1817 and 1818. It was quite a good building for those times. It superceded the small log cabin in which Mr. Moyer had been the teacher. This was located a few rods east of the village on land then owned by O. C. Smith and now by Mr. & Mrs. Jim Sitko. In 1825 Mr. Dunn married Betsy Owen, daughter of Daniel Owen of whom we spoke before. I believe that Mr. & Mrs. Dunn were great grandparents of Frank, Forrest and Ray Cone. Also great great grandparents of Arleen and Jeanette, Melbern and Walter, Marie and Pauline, Forrest and Alen Owen, and Norma and Mary. Mr. Dunn's death occurred in 1875. He had lived on the same farm for fifty years. He was a man of gentle and unassuming manners and was greatly esteemed both as a neighbor and citizen. He served in the War of 1812. Mr. Fairbanks was promoted to Captain and Mr. Dunn promoted to Ensign and then to Major, sometimes called Captain Dunn. His widow, son, and daughter still lived in that house in 1880. Mr. Dunn was an early member of Masonic Lodge, instituted in 1817.

The Dunn's had four children; three daughters namely: Melissa, Betty, and Betsy who married three Smith Brothers who came to Parkman from Connecticut. Melissa married Orlando and they had two children: Hatti who married Vollney Johnson and Clate who married Ida Blair. There were two Blair girls, Ida and May Blair who married Mr. Hoxter. Returning to the Dunn sisters, Betty Dunn married Nuel Smith. They had a boy, Leon Smith; Betty died when he was two or three years old. Betsy Dunn married Orville Smith. They had a baby girl who was Flora Cone, mother of Frank, Ray, and Forrest. However, Betsy died when Flora was about a year old and Grandma Dunn practically raised the little children. Owen Dunn was running the farm and Captain Dunn died at age seventy-nine. Flora Cone said that when her grandfather was ill the doctor had to come to Farmington on the train and they met him with the horse and buggy. On the south side of the Grand River in section 23, near the Dunn Farm was once an Indian burial place, from which human bones, arrowheads, pottery, etc. have been extracted.

Not long after the settlement of Thomas Moore, his brother-in-law, James Donaldson— a native of Ireland, bought a farm south of that of Henry Morton upon which he built a log house, where he lived until his death in 1863. The farm was bought by Marvin Owen, son of Samuel Owen. Mrs. Nathaniel Moore, daughter of Sam Owen, was still living in Parkman in 1878. James and Samuel Donaldson were both soldiers in the War of 1812. In 1816, Benjamin Moore, brother of Thomas, purchased a farm directly south of Samuel Donaldson, later owned by Marvin Owen. Mr. Ineman, a brother-in-law, bought the land and then sold it to Hiram Donaldson,

son-in-law of Nathaniel Moore, who built a frame house and sold it to his brother John L. Moore. The Moore's, Donaldson's, Owen's, Crosses and the Evanses, along with Edward Thorpe, a native of Ireland, contributed to the idea of that corner of Parkman Township being known as Little Ireland. The Edward Thorpe farm was inherited by John Thorpe who was Adjutant in the War of the Rebellion and it has been known as the Thorpe Farm for many years. It was then bought by Mr. George Hasman from Twinsburg, who is both a banker and a farmer. Mr. & Mrs. Hasman are much appreciated in our town; always helping where needed. They have four lovely children: Susan, Michael, Crystal, and John.

Now we will mention the Moore's again, John L. Moore and his son, Curt, who married Ada Garber. They were parents of John and Marion, who live on top of the hill, next to the church. They are both noted for their love of Nature and the protection of birds. Must mention the Garber's, Ada's parents. They had lived in Parkman for many years. John, Marion and Hilda Norton are the only relatives living here in 1976. The Garbers lived on Farmington Road and later on Route 422, previously owned by Ellsworth Owen. There were five Owen girls whose father was Ellsworth, brother of George and cousin of Melbern's father, Frank Owen. The girls names were: Norma, Rachel, Mary, Ruth and Marvel. Norma and Mary are living in California. Another family who lived on Warren Road (Route 422) was Elmer Mintern and his sons Leon and Walter. We have mentioned Route 422 and Farmington Road, now we will mention a little more about Mesopotamia Road or Nash Road. The Thomas Moores came to Parkman from Pennsylvania. They organized the Methodist Church and, with a few other families, held meetings in their homes in 1816. - Later on in 1841, with an increased membership, they built a church in the western section of town on land donated by Mr. Parkman. In 1858 by exchanges of lots, the building was moved across the street and entirely rebuilt. For over one hundred years it was used as a service for the community. It was sold to the Catholic Church in 1920, and used until a new and beautiful church was built.



Speaking of the Moores on Mesopotamia Road (or Nash Road), the Moores owned a large portion of land extending to Chandlers corners. Part of it was later purchased by a Mr. Kitlingher who built a nice home. He had four daughters: Pearl, Ruth, Arline and Reba. The Kitlingher home was later bought by Wesley Stoll. The next farm west was bought by Durlin Stoll who married Pearl Kitlingher, such fine people. Pearl and Durlin had two daughters, Arline and Luva and one son, Rollin. Arline has two daughters and Luva has two daughters and two sons. Rollin has one married daughter and four sons. Also, a very nice family. Pearl is a great worker and a good cook. Elizabeth, wife of Wesley, was a teacher and a fine lady. They had a daughter, Eileen Mahon, who is enthusiastic like her mother, and a son Elmer. Also, another nice family. Part of the Moore property was later owned by Samuel Ohl, father of War, Madison, Calvin, Fran, and John, and daughters: Em, Maria, Julia, and Effie Coulter. Mr. Coulter operated the grist mill. Joe and Maria Lengel live on the farm once owned by Paul Clapp, before belonging to Spencer Brown. They are very hard working farmers. They have a daughter, Rose Marie Fuller, and a son, Joe Jr., who married Kathy Rose. Rollin Stoll lives on the farm which was owned by Mr. War Ohl. Mr. John Ohl owned the farm now owned by George Brown. One time this farm was managed by Mr. Tucker who had a remarkable family. There were six girls: Esther, Anna, Roberta, Gertrude (deceased), Elnora, and Virginia; and boys: Paul, Bertram, and Wendolyn. They all graduated from Parkman High School and many of them attended college.

The Moore family had descendants on that road until a few years ago. Mr. Jeff Moore and Mattie Dow both owned farms there too. Jeff Moore had three daughters: Victoria' Mottinger, Ruby and Dorothy Hillock. They were fine people. Dorothy died about four years ago. She and Frank were fine citizens. Two other families were the Browns and the Clapps. Charles Brown owned the farm across from the N. E. Moss farm which then belonged to Mr. Mintern who lived to the age of ninety. Clapps, the parents of Alta Cross, lone Pursek, and Chester who married Margaret Newcomb, lived in the Spencer Brown place before Joe Lengel bought it. They too were fine citizens.

Want to mention the George Mintern family. They had five children: Elmer, Wilbur, Frank, Stella, and Luella. Frank died with pneumonia at age 23, and Luella died very young with typhoid fever while teaching. They were an outstanding family. Elmer, a carpenter, Wilbur, a businessman, and Stella Cromwell, were very energetic and interested people who helped our town in many ways.

Elmer's sons were: Leon, who was a carpenter and the janitor of the Community House for nearly twenty years, and Walter, a teacher and banker who married Cherrie Reed, a lovely lady and a teacher also.

Coming back to the family of Madison Ohl, he had three daughters: Ruby, Rena, and Rose, and a son, Roy, who died when he was in his twenties — such a likable fellow. Roy and his wife, Ethel (Little), had a son Robert and a daughter Cathryn (Adams). It is hard to find a better auctioneer than Bob Ohl. Cathryn married Wayne Adams and is a business lady. Bob married Betty McConnell. They had two daughters: Judy (Mathews) and Kathy; and a son, Ricky. They all have active families.

On the same road north of the one Sylvester Hosmer lived was a home owned by Mr. Haight, then by Mr. Bert Cook, and now by Pete Weaver. South of that was Edward Ketchum home and it is now owned by Mr. Kimak, who built a new house.

South of that was the Madison Ohl farm. Madison and Katie had three daughters and a son. Their daughter Ruby married Albert Komandt. They had three girls: Edith, Joanne and Hazel; and five boys: Albert Jr., Richard, Ralph, Haro and Adelbert. Ralph, Richard, and Haro are no longer living. Albert Jr. has been very active in civic affairs, as well as in Masonic and Eastern Star organizations and church. His wife, Mary (McConnell), is also very active in Eastern Star and church. A fine couple, they have three sons: Dale, Gerald, and Paul Wayne —very energetic young men. They have six nice grandchildren.

On the Hosmer Road there have been many new homes built on land that once belonged to Steve Soltis. This land was sold to Mr. Hudson and then divided into lots. Some of our very nice new owners are Dale and Nancy Koscelnik, Dan and Linda Workman, and Alvin and Mary Troyer. Mrs. Steve Soltis and her daughter, Helen, also have a new home. Dave and Nancy Holmes and their parents live on the road as well. There is a big farm on Hosmer Road that was once owned by John Ohls and by Frank Hosmer for many years and later by Mahlon Mast. It is now being run by Mr. Byler.

Farther south is another farm that was owned by Fred Owen about sixty years ago. It was later owned by Frank Hosmer, then by Lavere Potter, and is now owned by Merle Owen. It was known as the Reservation Farm, where many relics and artifacts were found. Merle ' is a prosperous dairy farmer. There are now also three gas wells on this farm. Chester Hosmer, who owned the land deeded to him by his father, Sylvester, had three children: Sylvester, Lee and a daughter: Stella. Stella married Ray Cone —they were a fine family. Perry Hosmer and his sister Amelia Harrington and their families lived on the West side of the road. Frank, son of Perry and his wife, had a large dairy farm. After the house burned in 1918, Frank bought the large farm of John Ohl. Perry Hosmer died in 1923. The farm was sold to Mr. Roper, then to Dr. Satchett, then to Edgar Beamer, and is now owned by David Dietz, a prosperous dairy farmer. David and Madelaine have two nice children: John and Karen. They are a fine family. Madelaine helps in Mother's Club, Women's Fellowship, and church.

We will not go to Newcomb Road where Mr. Pitkin lived in what at one time was known as Negro settlement because there were two negro families living there. Franklin Smith lived there in 1843 and it was sold to Mr. Otis Newcomb in 1860. Or man and Otis Newcomb bought another farm from Thomas Cudjews just south of Mr. Pitkin. Orman Newcomb built a house which was destroyed by fire and built another in which he lived until 1878. His son, Frank Newcomb, was a soldier in the 112th Regiment in the War of the Rebellion. As we remember, there were three Newcomb farms on that road owned by father and brothers: Andy, Charles,, and Wallace. Charles Newcomb's daughter, Ruby, married Frank Owen.

The first settlement on the west road was in 1818 by Joseph Terry. On the east side of the road Mr. Silvernail and then Mr. Potter. The next house was owned by James Brown in 1856. James Brown's father bought the Percival farm, then owned by Mr. Young, then by Mr. Scott, and then by Mr. Brown. Thomas Brown was a soldier in the War of 1812. His son, Reuben, was a member of the cavalry in the War of 1812 where he died. Mr. Pitner moved to the village until 1867 when he moved to Indiana, but his family returned to Parkman. I am sure we all remember Russ Pitner, grandson of Henry, who was a soldier in the 105th regiment in the War of the Rebellion. The family erected a commodious dwelling in the village on the northern part of the land originally owned by John P. Converse in 1872. Russ Pitner lived where Glen Thompson lives now. He later lived in several other homes. Russ was a painter and paper-hanger. He married Maude Donaldson, sister of Mrs. Fred Owen and granddaughter of Thomas Donaldson. There were two Pitner children: Lillian and Myron (deceased).

The land comprising the farm and mill site were bounded on the north by Troy Road and was owned by E. L. Bailey. He built a lovely home and a large family was raised there. There is quite a history in the memory of that old home. It is now owned by Monroe Miller.

In 1812 Mr. Elizah Ford, a native of Plainfield, Massachusetts, emigrated to Ohio. After a stay in Burton where he married Miss Esther Johnson, he purchased a farm in Troy in 1831, but soon moved over the line into Parkman. He left his good neighbors Morton and Peck, and bought a farm nearer the village which is known as Ford's corners. Mr. Ford's daughter, Mame, was born in 1820 and

married George Fram. Mr. Ford was a commissioned Sergeant of the Militia Rifle Company, through all grades, he rose to Colonel of the 5th Regiment and died in 1852. Mr. & Mrs. Fram were very strong members in the Congregational Church; their voices could always be heard in the village choir. They were greatly missed when they sold their farm and moved to Warren. They had two sons: Horace, who married Mamie Jolly, and Howard. Horace and Mamie had three sons: Ralph, Robert and Forrest; and an adopted daughter. Horace was a farmer, but later moved to Chagrin Falls. For many years they operated the Fram Gas Co. now known as the Ugite Gas Co. Howard Fram had a fine education and was a principal and also assistant county superintendent. He was a fine musician and at one time directed the famous Parkman Buckeye Band. He was later a banker in Warren. There are no descendants of the Fram or Fords remaining in Parkman in 1976.

Dr. John Scott, a native of Vermont, was born in Newbury in 1791. His father, John Scott Sr., came from Glasgow, Scotland. When Dr. John was a boy his love of studies was fed by the perusal of such books as fell within his reach. He studied by the blazing fire of pine knots. He began the study of medicine under tuition of Dr. James Dennison of Royalton, Vermont. He entered Dartmouth College and graduated in 1817. He made a trip to Ohio on horseback, where he met Mr. Paine who persuaded him to come to Parkman. He settled here and entered the practice of medicine to which he was very devoted. He lived here all but two years of his life—which time he was appointed Assistant Judge of Geauga County. He was school director in 1821. He built a house in the northern part of the village where he and his family lived for thirty-one years. I believe this house is now the parsonage for the Congregational Church. This house was later owned by Mary Parkman. Dr. Scott also loved literature and was one of the earliest members of the Masonic Lodge. His brother bought land on the west side of Burton Road and built a tannery and a house which was later owned by John Browning and later by Melvin Norton.

Another important man in the town in 1817 was Sherbern Williams, a native of Salem, Connecticut, and a later resident of New York, from which he came to Parkman. Possibly, because he was an acquaintance of the Phelps family, he became quite a businessman.

There were three Brown families. South of Mr. Potter was the farm owned by Jim Brown and the northern part by William Harnmell, sold to Mr. Patchin in 1843, and bought by James Brown in 1850. Frank, son of Jim, was very active in civic affairs and was a board member for many years. He took the assessment of population, etc. He had two children: Marion, a teacher and a clerk of the school board who later became very ill with arthritis, and Kenneth, a very hard worker and a fine man. Another Brown brother, Brad, was a farmer and a hard worker. He had two sons and a daughter. His son Earl lived on the farm and married Hattie Haizlet—a very nice couple. He was a trustee for many years and died of a stroke. Brad's other son, Pearl, married Josephine Sperry. He was postmaster in Middlefield for many years. The daughter, Edith, married Forrest Bidlack

They had two daughters: Vernelie and Lucille. Vernelle married and had four children before her husband died. She then married Sy Russel—they are a lovely family. Lucille was a fine musician and worked in a bank. She married Frank Lewis, a banker, and now live in Warren. They have three children. They are an enjoyable family and a credit to their community. Brad's son, Pearl, is now deceased. Edith lives in her grandfather's, Jim Brown, house. Must mention that Mrs. Brown was Lyda Norton, from a pioneer family, and at one time lived in the home where Mrs. Darlin Stoll lives.

There were three families of Towns on Newconib Road, namely: Roy, Perry and Ray. Roy had a daughter, Vida, and a son, Clark. They were jovial people. Roy and his wife were, at one time, caretakers of the County Home. Ray Town had three daughters: Myrtle Aspinwall, Tressie Bruggman (she and her husband were drowned in an accident on Farmington Road), and Elsie Phillips, who now lives in California. They were also excellent teachers.

The Goffs, Jollys and Hopkins later lived on Burton Road. The Patches lived on Patch Road and Nash Road was named for Mr. John Nash.

The first family west on Main Market or Route 422, are the Nagys who are nice people. Next were the two pioneer Bennett families, namely: Bushnell and Andrew Bennett. Mr. Kilby bought the Andrew Bennett farm. Mr. & Mrs. Kilby had five children: Alice, living in Florida, Henry who married Ethel Kilby, Dorothy who married Bernard Olmstead, Carl who now lives in Cleveland, and Mildred who lives in Claridon. Henry was killed in an automobile accident several years ago. He and Ethel had three lovely daughters: Carol, Alice, and Debbie—all great workers like their mother. Dorothy was a teacher for many years and a good one. She has a daughter Linda who is married and teaches in Burton. Her son, Bonnie, is a junior in high school. We must mention the Olmstead's. They were grand people who lived on the road south and over the white bridge for many years before moving to Parkman. Mr. Olmstead was postmaster until retirement. They had four boys and two girls: Bernard, Bert, Bruce, Carl, Ruth, and Wanda. Ruth married Bill Maiden, and Wanda married Andy Csorna and lives in Northfield. Ruth and Bill live in Arizona and Carl lives in Parkman. Bert and Bernard are both deceased.

The Urpis' were a remarkable family. They lived in Illinois a short time and spent the rest of their lives in Parkman; first on farms and later in the heart of town. Uno, the eldest, was a teacher in Newbury School. He married Josephine Gunn, a teacher and an elementary supervisor in Geauga County schools. He died of a heart attack. Don lives in Aurora, Helvi Horwath died in 1975, and Willie and Allie live with Ethel on the farm once known as the Andrew Bennett farm. We are proud of the Urpi family and the parents who worked very hard and sent their children to school. All of them graduated from Parkman High. I forgot Lila who is married and is also a teacher with two nice children.

East of the Bennett farms were the Carter and Burton farms. Mr. Lee Burton's father owned the farm which was bought by George Irwin. Mr. Burton was a teacher in Parkman's early school. Mr. Irwin paid a good price for one hundred, thirty-two and one-half acres, as he came from Holmes County where land was more expensive. Mr. George Irwin married Barbara Wolfe from Dundee and they had five children: Mary, Arthur, Carl, Wyman, and Oscar. Mary married Neil Rice and had three children: George, Helen, and Jimmie. George had five children. Helen had three children: two daughters, Wilde, and one son,

Repasky; both Mr. Wilde and Mr. Repasky are deceased. Jimmie had a daughter and a son. Wyman married Lyda Harper and they had two very fine daughters: Genevieve and Dorothy. Arthur went west, married, and bought land in Washington State. He owned some land that was taken by Coulee Reservoir near Coulee Dam. They had seven children, all of whom are living in the west. Carl, who was a prosperous farmer, married Margaret Harrison of Middlefield. She was a lovely lady who died in 1966. They had one daughter, Ruth, who is a teacher and business lady. She married Stanley Sitko, an ambitious farmer and realtor. Oscar married Bethel Hosmer. He went to World War I and on his return they bought the farm where they now live. He was a good farmer, both with poultry and dairy. He delivered eggs to Cleveland for thirty-five years and retired in 1968.

Farther east were the Williams farms — at one time Sherbern and later Fred Williams. Mr. Ferry bought their farm. He was a builder and a good one. His wife, Doris, was in quite poor health. They raised three boys: Jim, John, and Glenwood. John was killed in the war. Jim married Thelma Carver and they are now in Brazil where his appointment takes him. They have two sons; Michael and John and a daughter; Linde Sherwood who is living on State Road. Glenwood has a lovely home east of Jim's. They have three girls and two boys: Tom, Bruce, Susan, Jill, and Judy, a very nice family.

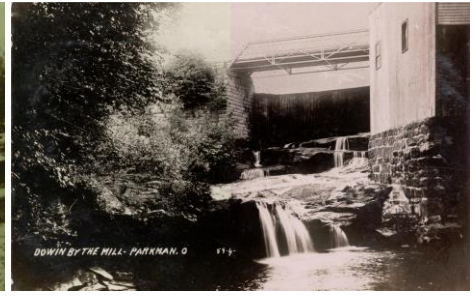
Mr. Haizlet bought the farm east of Charley Auxer and then Bud Young bought it. This place was formerly owned by Royal Burton and is now occupied by Bill Young, Bud's son. Bill married Dorothy Blair and they have three nice children: Becky, Dennis, and Jeffery. Bill's grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. John Young, came here from Warren many years ago. They bought the beautiful home of Mr. & Mrs. Bush Bennett—it was almost a show place. Mrs. Bennett had lived alone after the death of her husband. She had almost the first automobile in Parkman and she drove it, too! Mr. & Mrs. Young were very interested in Masons and Eastern Star and most of their children and grandchildren followed in their interests, Mr. & Mrs. Santamary now owns this home. They have made it a large and very beautiful nursery. They are a fine addition to our town.

On Grove Road I mentioned the Gunns and the Blairs. That was where the grandparents of Joe Urpi lived. It is now owned by Dale and Linda Gates. They have a parachuting instruction school and a very good one. Dale is the son of Vernon and Bertha Gates. We want to congratulate Vern and his son, Dick, for another settlement built by them called "Stage Coach Drive". A very fine number of people live there. Vernon Gates died very suddenly on May 24, 1976.

In 1816 Isiah Davis of New York bought four hundred acres lying east of Garrettsville Road, including land owned by Henry Elwell, who died and was buried with Masonic services. His land was divided among the children. Henry received the frame house and land that was later owned by Dr. French, acting physician in 1854 after Dr. Scott. Henry Linsley was also a farmer and owned a large farm on the McCall road. They were here with the early pioneers. The house was sold a couple of times. Henry had a daughter, Mabelle, who went to school from there. She graduated from Parkman and was a teacher in Auburn school. She later married Forrest Baird, son of Edwin Baird. They had two daughters: Ruth McConnell, a dietitian at Orange school and Edna, a teacher in California. They also had a son, Rex, who lives in Warren. They are a fine Christian family.

One of the early settlers in Parkman was Ira Waterman who settled here in 1819. Mr. Waterman's sister was Mrs. Baird, mother of Edwin, who was a soldier in the fifth regiment of the New York Heavy Artillery in the War of the Rebellion. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Baird had four children: Austa, Laura, Forrest, and Paul. Austa is the only child still living. Forrest was a farmer and later bought the grist mill, which he operated for many years. He sold it to N.E. Moss who operated it for many years and then decided to farm more extensively and sold the business. However, a few years later to the sadness of everyone, the old grist mill was burned.





The McCall's had two farms on McCall Road. Sam Irwin, George Irwin's brother, came from Holmes County and bought one of the farms. After leaving the farm he and his son, Jessie, built a new house across the Mill Pond. Then later his son, Jessie, and wife, Kathryn, lived there and later sold to Mr. and Mrs. Peck. The home is now owned by Robert Kovach. Another McCall farm was sold to Mr. Sturdevant and then to Frank and Mary Soltis, who worked very hard and became big farmers. They had several children: James, who married Hazel Gates; Frank, Rose, Helen, Agnes, Emil, Eddie, and Bernice (Baptie).

Jim and Hazel have a large farm and Jim is an extensive dairy farmer. The Soltis family is one to be proud of. Mr. Soltis owned quite a bit of property in town and several farms. Bernice, the youngest, married Kenneth Baptie and they had four nice girls.

One of the pioneers in Parkman was James M. Cone who passed away at the age of 89. Frank Cone's-fathers folks came from Ireland in 1846 with one boy and a baby girl in arms. The little boy died on the trip over and was buried at sea. They came over in a sail boat and were 7 weeks at sea. They came to Rochester, New York, and lost another boy while living there. They then moved to Parkman to work on the Clinton Air Line which was to be a railroad through Parkman, but it did not develop. This left James and Mary Cone to farm in Parkman. James Cone, the son, went to work for Owen Dunn on a farm now owned by Stanley Smith. Flora Smith lived on the farm across the road. This later became Ray Cone's farm. Hence, James met Flora and they were married. James Cone was very interested in horses. In fact, he devoted his life to raising and training horses. He was a prominent horse breeder and started with a famous brood mare, "Rosy Gold Leaf". He drove at many fairs. One of the most unusual was at the Fair of 1924 when every driver was over 70. There were six entries and Mr. Cone won. Forrest Cone has continued in his father's footsteps. He is still training horses at the age of 94. Mrs. William Cromwell was a sister to James Cone, and mother of William H. Cromwell who died in 1953. As I mentioned previously. Will had a sister, Mame Veber, who is 96 and lives with her daughter in Cleveland. A brother, Arthur, died at the age of 97. Another sister, Myrtle Sparrow, is 86 and still lives in Parkman. Her husband was Lou Sparrow who clerked in Cromwell's store for many years and later worked in the Post House Restaurant. They had a daughter, Wilma, who is now widowed and has two children. Frank Cone was first married to Laura Baird and later married Hattie Brown. They sold the Cone farm to Stanley Smith and bought the place once owned by Edwin Baird and later by Frank Owen. Hattie Cone was a fine lady and a great worker. She belonged to the Mothers Club for many years and was secretary for several years. We missed Hattie when she passed away suddenly on Thanksgiving night two years ago.

The N. E. Moss family is a Christian family. They have six daughters and two sons: Esther Wolfe, Beatrice Bossow, Kaye Villers, Gladys Hoffman, Barbara Thorn, Sue Ann, Harald, and Howard. Kaye and Don Villers have three children: Scott, Guy, and Jeffery who live in Parkman. They are a very delightful family.

In 1819 Mr. Seth Smith came to Parkman from Madison, New York, and bought land on the southern boundary of the township on which he built a log cabin and later a frame house. I believe Mrs. Pitcher and her sons live in this house. Mr. Smith had a family of seven sons, four of whom, settled in this vicinity, and this gave the name of Smithville to that part of the township—a name which still remains. Ransom and Marsh Smith came before their father. Marsh moved to Chardon and held an important office for many years.

David White and his wife, Mary Coombs, came from Massachusetts and settled in Farmington, where they lived from 1840 to 1845. They moved to Parkman and bought fifty acres from C. Isabel who had purchased it from Mr. Perkins and Mr. Dixon in 1836. Celeste White, David's daughter, married Alanson Bestor in 1940. At his death in 1852, she came to Parkman with two sons. Her two brothers lived in Michigan and Tennessee. The brothers deeded the farm, to C. M. Bestor in 1867. The farm was passed on to the oldest grandson, Roy Bestor, in 1911. Evelyn is not living on the farm and helping her son who operates the farm. This is the sixth or seventh generation to live on this farm. The house is located on the corner of Nelson Road over the White Bridge. Roy Bestor, Evelyn's father, had a gladiola farm and delivered many loads of glads, Grandfather Bestor built a home on Route 282 and later sold it to Mills who later sold it to Mr. and Mrs. George Fenton, who may not be the very oldest, but have been here for many years. Roy Bestor had three brothers: Walter, Ernie, and Lynn. Ernie died when young. Evelyn was Roy's only child and she married Joe Blackford. They had two

sons and two daughters: Harold, an electrician; Janet Holloway, a teacher and a nurse; Roy Blackford, a physician and farmer; and Lucile Thompson, who was a technician at Geauga Community Hospital. Lucile married Glenn Thompson, a very important man in Parkman.

Back to Madison Road-South. John L. Moore owned the next place south of the Reynolds places, which was purchased by Jackson Robb and then sold to Stephen Parkhurst in 1857. In 1878 the land was owned by Burt and Bernham Tinker. It was first settled by Andrew Foote in 1839, and on the west side settled by Joshua Newell in 1837, who sold it to Sam Durand and then to Benjamin Tinker, who later deeded it to his two sons who built houses. Bart's home is on the west, Bernham's son, Breck's, home is on the south on the same side of the road, and Bernham's home is across the road. Burt Tinker had a daughter, Mabel who married Frank Blackmarr who was instrumental in building the big Blackmarr block, which was the town hall and fire hall and has been used for Masonic and Eastern Star meetings for many years. Mabel Blackmarr died leaving eleven children, many of whom graduated from Parkman High School, There are only two of her children living now: Melodia and Ralph. Mr. Tinker married again and had a daughter, Jessie, who married Charles Cook. Jessie was a talented pianist and gave lessons. She died, leaving behind twin girls: Ruth and Rose. Ruth married Arnold Smith and lives in Parkman. They have a daughter, Carol, who was in a bad accident and is paralyzed. She is a very brave lady and has three children.

After the Parkhurst family came the Parsons. Frank and Julia Kovach now live on that farm and also own land across the road. They have two sons: Frank and Robert; and a daughter: Shirley. The farm next to theirs is the Oscar Irwin farm which" was once owned by Frank and Kollie Brown, from whom Oscar bought the farm.

The next farm was owned by John Kingsbury and then by Daniel B. Hosmer who sold it to Arthur Jones. Mr. Jones was a soldier in the War of the Rebellion. He was confined to Andersonville prison for some time and narrowly escaped death in the blowing up of the Sultana on the Mississippi river. Mr. and Mrs. Jones had two sons: Ellsworth who married Hattie Horton (they lived in Bundysburg and later in Youngstown), and Harry, who married Ollie Cook (Fred Cook's daughter) and was the dentist in Parkman for many years. Harry and Ollie had four children: Christine, Helen, Rex, and Fredericka. Christine, the oldest daughter, married Harry Chappelle. She taught music, piano, and accordion—a very fine musician. She later married Vern Teeple. They both died of heart attacks. Helen married Hugo Vanalderwelt of California. Fredericka is still living in the west. She is the only living member of the family. Rex married Josephine Gunn. They separated and both remarried. Joe married Uno Urpi, they were both teachers and a fine couple. Josephine's parents lived in the Grove. Her father's name was Carl Gunn and her mother was a Williams. There were other children in the Gunn family: Paul, George who died when only fifteen, Minnie (Harris), and Carl. They were a family to remember. Getting back to the Fred Cook family: Harry Cook married Vanchie Davis, Ollie married Harry Jones, Lula married Phil Dennis, one sister married Harry Rhodes, and Minnie married Ed Donaldson.

The Arthur Jones farm was later sold and bought by George Farley, Sr. and George Farley., Jr. "who came from England with their wives in 1912. They were very prosperous and congenial farmers. They 'were an active part of all of the activities in our town. George, Jr. was Master of the Lodge, Patron of the Eastern Star, Clerk of the Church, Clerk of the Trustees, and more. His wife was a wonderful lady who was full of fun. They had a son, Hilton, who married Evelyn, a very gracious and accommodating lady. Hilton is a telegrapher in the airport station. They also had a daughter, Kathleen, who works in the bank—a sweet lady. She married Milan Robinson, a very courteous and sincere man. They have a daughter, Evelyn, who now lives in Andover; and a son, Tom, who is an optometrist and lives in Oregon. Hilton is very ambitious with three farmer jobs and as a big sugar maker. He and Evelyn are very faithful church members and give of their time to church duties.

Now we come to the Norman Smith place. Norman Smith was a son of Ransom Smith, one of the early settlers in the southern part of the town. He held the rank of Lieutenant in the War of the Rebellion. Decatur, another son of Ransom Smith, was a soldier in the War of 1812, He purchased land 1½ miles north of Parkman. He had a large family, most of whom lived and grew up in Parkman. His daughter, Ella Moore, once lived in and ran the hotel in the home that is now owned by Elma Lane. This house was built in 1814. At one time it was a hotel owned by Parkman and Paine.



Mr. Dustan took quite a tract of land. He chopped wood at night and taught school in the daytime.

Mr. Hatch moved to town and built a house in 1873. His house was very near, if not on the spot, where the first trees were felled and Mr. Parkman built the first log cabin. His son, Horace, was wounded in the war, and two other sons died in the War of the Rebellion.

We shall now return to Route 422. 'Ray Cone married Stella Hosmer, daughter of Chester who lived on a farm known as the Dunn Farm. There were three boys: Forrest, Ray, and Frank Cone. All the boys were farmers interested in horses and sometimes driving race horses. Ray and Frank remained on farms with large sugar bushes. Ray and Stella had four children: Paul, Jamie, Maurice, and Marjorie. Marjorie married Adam Ash—they are both deceased. Paul married Etta Hurd, Jarnie married Olive Gilmore, and Maurice married Grace Ward. Etta Hurd came from a large family. They lived on a farm owned by Curt More. They were a very fine family whose mother was a wonderful cook. Charlotte Cromwell loved to visit Etta and eat Mrs. Hurd's good cooking. Flora Hurd married Roger Hoxter, a big farmer on Route 422. Ralph married Pauline Owen and they live in Troy. Harry lives in Southington. Jamie Cone became famous with his ability to take part in Masonic and Eastern Star services. His wife, Olive, is a very active and capable Eastern Star. Maurice, a busy electrician, and Grace are both very energetic.

Jim Cone's wife, Flora Dunn, was a double cousin to Hattie Smith, who was a sister to Clayton Smith. Clayton Smith and Mr. Johnson helped in building the creamery which they operated for many years.

The O. C. Smith Inc. Creamery and Cheese factory was built by Messrs. Budlong and Stokes from New York City in 1863. After Mr. Stokes' long drives collecting milk, his horses were cared for at Martin Hewitt's blacksmith shop. The town had turned to agriculture. In 1881, O. C. Smith had patented rotary cheese vats in his factory that were run by steam. In 1880 over two hundred and sixty thousand pounds of cheese were made netting farmers nearly \$27,000.00. In 1867 the cheese factory was purchased by O. C. Smith and Volney Johnson, who conducted the business for many years. O. C. Smith was Clayton Smith and Hattie Smith Johnson's father. Clayton Smith married Ida Blair and had a son, Howard, who was a large dairyman all of his life. Howard married Alice Randall, who lived on Tavern Road. Her father was also a farmer. To them were born seven children, their son, Forrest, was killed in World. 'War II, and one boy died at the age of five. They are an outstanding family. Stanley is a big farmer, dairyman, and sugar maker. Stanley and Agnes (Monroe) Smith live on the farm, known as the Cone farm. Their children have all graduated from high school and have all been to Youngstown College, where Agnes is a professor. They have been a very important family in our town, and very helpful in the community.



The sons of Nick Soltis, Jim and Steve, were born in Nelson. Jim and Marie have six children and are a very energetic couple. Jim is one of our trustees and I am sure he will do what he thinks is right.





William Cromwell had a store on the corner for many years. In 1943 he sold it to Mr. Al George. He did not have a drug store, but he had a meat counter which encouraged many customers to come in. Al and Dorothy, along with their four children: Dick, Allen, David, and Don, operated the store very successfully for many years. Al and Dorothy decided to move to Florida, so Don and Shirley took over the store and did very well. We certainly missed the store on the corner when they closed. Don has a fine position at the Johnson Rubber factory. They have four lovely children: Susan, Sheri, Cindy, and Danny.



Parkman Town Center - pre the 1898 fire.

Another important event was the fire which destroyed all of the stores in 1898. There were two replaced, Mr. Cromwell's and Mr. Bundy's stores. Mr. Bundy was later bought out by Charles Agler and then by Volney Johnson. The store was also owned by Ola and Allie Wygant. Mr. Wygant was an undertaker and a barber, and Ola was the storekeeper.

This store was later bought by Tom Garber and Phadima (Hopkins) Garber. They were also storekeepers and Tom the barber. They were surely an important part of our town. Tom charged 25 cents for a haircut and 10 cents for a shave. Phadima was from a family of six girls. They lived on High Street close to where Mr. Parkman built his first log cabin. Phadima and Tom had a son, Gilbert, who is an important businessman, and a daughter, Thora Alvord of Chardon. Thora has surely been a faithful Parkmanite. She is always willing whenever there is anything or someone has an occasion for her to participate.

There were several Farleys. I mentioned George and his son, Hilton, and daughter, Kathleen. Let us proceed then with Jim who came here more than seventy years ago from England. He married Nellie, who was one of the sweetest ladies. They had two sons: Paul and Jamie; and a daughter, Marguerite, who died when in her twenties. Paul married Arabelle who is still a beautiful lady. Jamie, a soldier in World War 1, married Emma, a nurse. They were very capable and important people who were much help during the flu epidemic. Paul and Arabelle had four sons: Howard, Gene, Edison, and Alton, who were very well educated. The girls are: Marjorie, Jeanette, Maxine, and Bernice. Howard, Paul and Jamie are deceased. Marjorie is married and a capable business lady. Maxine has a grown family and is a fine lady. Jeanette married Floyd Loomis and is a dental technician. Bernice married Joe Wells, a capable businessman, and is a teacher in Cardinal school. She was choir director, is quite musical and has a lovely voice. Bernice and Joe have five lovely children: Nancy, Gary, Michael, Steve, and Susan. A truly Christian family.

Now there was a man who had a saw mill for many years, known as Chester Adams. He had four children: Kitty, Mabel, Ella, and Reddie, a son. One of his relatives in Parkman is Kitty's son Jim Everett. Jim and his wife, Beatrice, have three children: William Thrasher, David, and Rae Ann. They are very active in the Chamber of Commerce and are ambitious citizens.

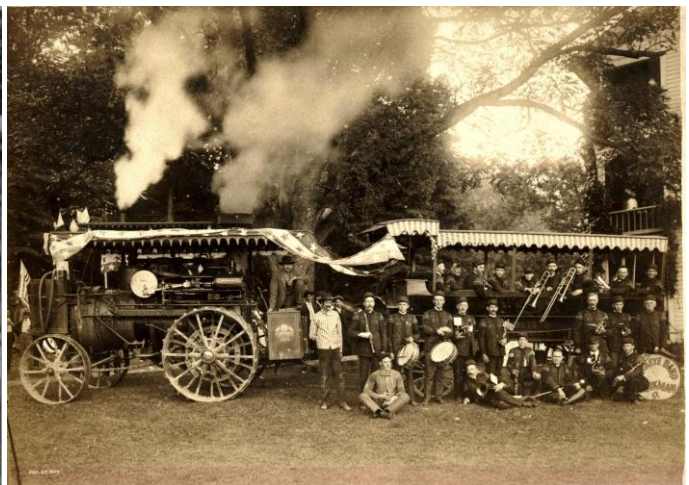
Other families living near Stanley Smith were Ellsworth Owen and George Owen. George lived on Owen Road and Ellsworth on Route 422. George married May Davis, daughter of Jimmy Davis who lived on the corner of Tavern Road toward the cemetery. May Owen is a sister of Vanchie Cook, Harry Cook's wife. George and May had several important children: Pauline Hurd, Cecil, Rodger, Merle, Forrest, and Alton. Cecil and Rodger are not living.

We must not forget an important family by the name of Tucker, they were very remarkable. All nine children attended Parkman school and graduated. Many of them attended college, and only one, Gertrude, is deceased. Virginia (Peggy) married Chester Warner, brother of Clif, who we mentioned before was husband of Jessie Owen. Chet was a wonderful man. He was revered and loved by everyone. He took a very active part in Masons, Eastern Star, church, and volunteer firemen, etc. Peggy has been important in our town and is an active member of Eastern Star. Chester died in 1968 of a stroke and long sickness. Peggy has recently remarried and is again living in Parkman after living in Painesville for a few years.

In regard to the saw mill owned by Mr. Adams, it was sold to Mr. Guy Norton, who operated it for many years. Guy came from a large family. His grandfather lived on Bardford Road, which runs south from Evans Road. Guy was a very good musician and he organized and played in our Buckeye Band. Organized in 1886, Clayton Smith, William Cromwell, Voiney Johnson, and Guy Norton are the charter members. The band was famous all over the county. They played for many things in Parkman as well as surrounding towns. One of the famous Nortons was Melvin, Superintendent of the school in Parkman for thirty years. He set a very good example for all the young people. His name will always be remembered. He married Ruby Browning, her father was John Browning and her mother was the sister of Ed Bundy. They were pioneers whose grandparents lived in Bundysburg. Guy Norton's daughter, Hilda, is also an outstanding musician and has been the church organist for nearly fifty years.



Parkman's Buckeye Band Founding Members



Parkman's Buckeye Band



The first school was taught in 1831. In 1883 a new brick building was built. Mr. B. C. Gates was given the contract. An addition of brick veneer was made on the east side in 1909 and in 1950 an addition was made in the front. A beautiful gym was built by W. P. A. workers and a donation of \$2,000.00 by the Mother's Club in 1937 or 1938. It was greatly appreciated by the students, who had some thrilling basketball games.

Connie and Carmella Testa have been most important in the school. Connie looked after everything and kept the building immaculate. Carmella has been dietician for many years, and a good one. Irene Wayne and Betty Gotham are now taking care of the lunches at Parkman school.

Betty Gotham is the wife of Leland Gotham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lysle Gotham who have been good Parkmanites for a long time.

Irene Wayne's husband's families have been residents here for many years. Merle's grandfather, Al Sherwin, was quite a story teller, and would rather tell a story than eat. Mr. and Mrs. Sherwin had three daughters: Neva, Calla, and Leda; and three sons: Fred, Jesse, and Harve. Only Neva's son and family are living in Parkman. Merle had a sister, Ora, who married Mr. Morrison, who is a nephew of Lou Sparrow. Irene and Merle have a lovely daughter, Caroline, and two sons: Bruce and Gerald. Bruce is married and lives in Cortland and Gerald lives in Columbus. Irene has several grandchildren.



Mr. Sparrow, Lou's father, was a pioneer in Parkman. He had a blacksmith shop for many years, north of the Town store, and lived in the house now owned by Junior Komandt.

The McConnell family was here for nearly fifty years. Mr. McConnell worked in the grist mill for Forrest Baird. Mrs. McConnell was a great worker who could manage three jobs at once; President of the Mother's Club, custodian, and mother. They had seven children: Ethel, Mary, Wilma, Betty, Ralph (deceased), John, and Willie. All very energetic Christian members. Mary married Albert Komandt, Jr. — they are pillars in the church. Betty married Robert Ohl, a grandson of Madison Ohl.

Miss Science Gates married Mr. Clarence Fouty and they had three daughters: Florence, Doris, and 'Norma; and a son, Donald. Norma married Harold Donaldson. Florence married Larry Pace from Cleveland. He was a very ambitious and energetic man. He worked for the town and the trustees for many years. He died in the fall of 1975 of a brain tumor. Donald married Lucile, step-daughter of Bert Ainsley. The Ainsley's were descendants of Zene Ainsley who lived on State Road. Some of the houses that were owned, by the Ainsleys are still there.

Another family who have lived there since 1931, is the Stanleys. They had a large family. Their old home has been removed and Marion and Leonard Hickox built a home nearby, Lillian Miller owns a home on Owen's Road. John built a fine house on Nash Road, Sister Elaine is a nurse and lives in Pakistan. One brother, Richard, was killed in Germany, February 3, 1945. Two sisters, Marcella and Elizabeth, died of disease. Their parents were very hard working people. John is a trustee and I am sure a very good one. He married a pretty lady, Jean. They have two daughters: Jane and Jeanette; and one son.

The following names are taken from a list of soldiers in the Revolutionary War from Kent State University:

Joel Cross, Cpl. New York Militia	Samuel Donaldson, Pvt. Connecticut Militia
Asa Doty, Massachusetts Artillery	Benjamin Smith, Ensign Connecticut Militia

Besides the soldiers of the Revolutionary War, we should also mention:

Zechariah Hosmer	Seth Phelps (father-in-law of Parkman founder)
Reuben Curtiss	Johas Carter
Elisha Bundy	Private Woods, Massachusetts Militia
William French Sgt. Brewers, Massachusetts Regiment	

During the Civil War 79 answered the call, and 24 in the War of 1812. In World War 1 - 22 was the quota, and only Clifford Thompson, son of Rev. Thompson, failed to return. He was a very fine young man and had high inspirations. In World War II, 120

were on the honor - roll, of that number 8 men did not return: Gerald Owen, son of Mrs. Grace Thorpe and Cecil Owen (deceased), was the first casualty in Panama City, Florida, in 1943. John , Quinn, son of Jim and Joe Quinn (they were very wonderful people-- now deceased), was killed in action in France in December 1944. Richard Pollari died in Germany in 1945. The Pollarils were a very admirable family, two daughters became nurses, Carlo became a teacher, and Edward a businessman. Dick Stanley died in Germany in 1945. He was from an outstanding family living on State Road. Joseph Turocy died in a Veteran's Hospital some time later. Turocy's lived on a farm once owned by Mr. War Ohl, and now owned by Rollin Stoll. Forrest Smith, son of Howard and Alice who bought the O. C. Smith farm, died in eastern France, December 13, 1944. Michael Tackacs was killed in action. He was the son of George Tackacs, who lives on one of the pioneer Moore's property. John Ferry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Ferry, was captured after the fall of Corregidor and remained a Japanese prisoner until September 1944 when the prison ship was sunk. That was very sad for all people in Parkman. Mr. Lee Ferry is now deceased.

To summarize, we have lost some businesses, but have also gained some. George's store and Hopkin's store are no longer here, but we do have Breiteribach's town store, Barwell, and three garages: Standard Oil, Thompson's garage, and Certified gas. Also, S & S Gravel, Santamary Florist and the Post House are still functioning. Two other businesses are Kool Lakes, operated by Paul Chilkowski, which offers swimming and camping.

Sitko, Merle Owen, Jim Soltis, Mr. Maroush, Stanley Smith, David Dietz, N. E. Moss, and many Amish farms.

The relatives of the first pioneers who are still living in Parkman are: Bert Evans and family, he is a great great grandson of the first Daniel Evans. His father was Dan and his brothers are Glenn and Ross, and his sisters Beth and Mabel. Beth married Fred Thompson, Glenn's father, and after his death she married Ernest Cornwall. They had two daughters and four sons. All five boys were in World War II and one did not return. Bert Evans had two daughters, Lillie and Lucile, and three sons, Ellie, Eugene, and Willie. Willie died in an accident. Ellie married Marie, a dear lady. Eugene married a Thrasher girl, and Willie married Ruth Harper. They are all nice people. John and Marlon Dryer, whose great great grandfather was John L. Moore. Hilda Norton, who is the great granddaughter of Henry Norton. Frank Hosmer and Bethel Irwin are the great great grandchildren of Zechariah Hosmer. All of the Owen families, Smith families, Brown families, the Merle Wayne family, the Bestor family, the Cone family, and the B. C. Gates family, have all been within one hundred years.

The following were some of the businesses in Parkman in 1880; Elizah Percival Dry Goods, Larence Johnson Drug Store and Grocery, Mrs. Josie Percival Millinery, M. Arnaziah Clark Hotel, George Hatch Post-master, Fred Cook Blacksmith Shop, Charles Bundy Tin Shop, Will Sparrow Wagon Shop, Andy Coulter Grist Mill, M. A. Hopkins-two saw mills, Clate Smith and Volney Johnson Cheese Factory, Dave Mace Shoe Shop, Curt Moore Livery Stable, Robert Boles Taylor, Perry Hosmer Saw Mill. Businesses in Parkman in 1948 included the following: Al George Grocery, Joe Lovesee Grocery, E. L. Johnson (grandson of Orlando Smith) Hardware, Leonard Hopkins Dry Goods, Marguerite Whetsone and Bertha Pond—The Post House, Virginia Tucker Warner and Grace Cone Fashion Shop, Narvie Moss Grist Mill, Mrs. Eleon Peck Antique Dealer, Richard Giles and John Whetsone Service Stations.



As I mentioned before, Thomas Moore and his wife came to Parkman from Pennsylvania. They were Methodists and organized a church with a few other families in 1816. In 1841, with an increased membership, they built a church in the west part of town on land donated by Mr. Perkins. In 1858 by exchange of lots, the building was moved across the street. It was entirely rebuilt into a modern

church. For a little over 100 years (1816 to 1918) it was active in service in the community. It was sold to the Catholic Diocese in 1920 and was used by them until a new beautiful church was built within the last few years.



The Congregational Church was first organized as Presbyterian and in 1823 had ten members. An attempt was made to build a church. Rev. Frazer was the pastor for nine years. In 1857, the church joined the "Plymouth Rock Association". The membership was reduced to seven, but in 1873 with the leadership of Rev. Taylor from the Home Missionary Society, the church did an amazing thing. These seven members and Rev Taylor made plans for building a church. The building was started in 1874 on July 29, and was dedicated on December 1, 1878. The only debt was one of \$500.00 by the church building society. Rev. Taylor added twenty three members and made the church self-supporting.

The Rev. Frazier increased the membership to 70. He was followed by Mr. Martin and then by Rev. Henshaw. His pastorate was much appreciated by the members. Many important services were rendered by him. Then came Rev. Greenfield, Rev. Wright, and then ' Rev.

Child whose salary was \$300.00 a year with the rent of the parsonage. The next, call was answered by Rev. Hiram Thompson in 1913. Of this pastorate of 22 years, it may be said that every family had occasion to remember him through the services of the church. He baptized children, married the young, visited the sick, buried the dead, and conducted his services with dignity. He resigned in 1933.

Many ministers have followed, usually staying three to five years. There was Rev. Elwynn Owen, Rev. Gould who became chaplain in World War II, and Rev. John Has Ellison then joined the union. During his pastorate of 5 years, 107 members were added to the membership rolls. The Junior Choir was reorganized under the direction of Mrs. Has Ellison and Mrs. Oscar Irwin with Hilda Norton as organist. Rev. Stinehelfer followed and was an outstanding minister. He passed away in 1974 of a brain tumor. He had a lovely wife and children. Rev. Guest and his wife served here a few years. Rev. Paul Carpenter and his wife, Janet, and family followed Rev. Carl Zimmerman, a retired minister, who served us for nearly a year as an interim minister. He and his wife, Helen, certainly added enthusiasm and devotion to our church and Women's Fellowship. He was followed by Rev. Carl Gillett and his wife, Marilyn, and sons. Marilyn had a beautiful soprano voice which added to our choir. Then came Rev. Berg and his wife, Judy, and their baby, Rebecca. They were a fine couple. He is now curator of the Geauga Historical Society. We can say a kind word for all our ministers.



After purchasing the Methodist Church, St. Edwards Church was established. The first mass was held on December 23, 1928, conducted by Joseph Schremhs D. D. Bishop of Cleveland. Present membership is comprised of people from Nelson, Garrettsville, Welshfield, West Farmington, Burton, and Parkman. Father Yavorsky was the previous priest and Father Winca is presently serving the Parish, a very congenial and sociable person.

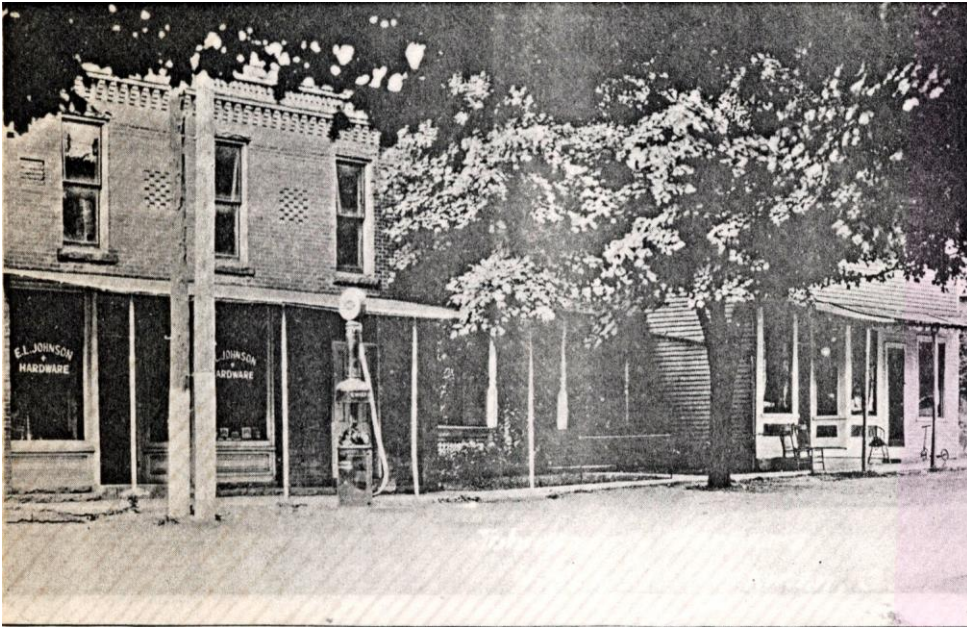
The Post Office was established in Parkman, August 1, 1805. Parkman was the first Post Master. At that time there were only 2 or 3 families in the town. The salary was small. Ten years later the annual income for a Post Master was \$10.75. The following people held the office of Post Master; Barton Avery, Sherwood Tiiden, James Johnson, George Hatch, L. Davis, John Moore, Carlos Kellogg, Mrs. Perusek, Mrs, George Hatch, Fred Waters, Gertrude Waters, Lucy Blair Hammell, Herb Olmstead, Alice Smith, and our present Post Mistress, Mrs. Virginia Gotham. She has two lovely daughters, Neila who is attending college, and Valerie who is a senior at Cardinal High School.

Virginia Gotham's mother, Bernice Forestall, is a very capable and congenial lady. She is a Past President of Parkman Mothers Club and is now President of Parkman's 55 Plus Club. Her husband, Fern, died a few years ago. They purchased the home that once belonged to Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Owen. As I mentioned before, Shermie Owen was a sister of Ella Moore and daughter of Decatur Smith, a pioneer.

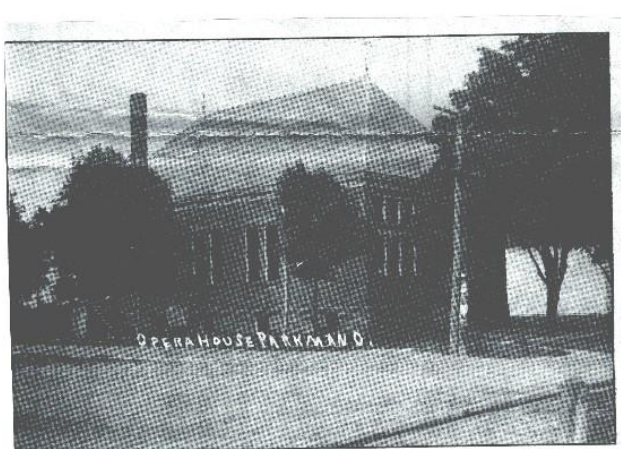


On August 4, 1929, at 4 o'clock, the plane came and picked up the first air mail to leave Geauga County. 2, 056 letters were sent to all parts of the country and to foreign lands. Plans were made to have the plane land at Parkman's airfield. The mail was loaded by P. C. Brown, Middlefield Post Master, and W. H. Cromwell, Parkman's representative.

Will Cromwell, son of William Cromwell who was wounded in the Civil War, was a very outstanding man in our town. He was ever ready to promote and initiate new ideas. He was a druggist, store keeper, realtor, and county commissioner for several years. He was a fine man. He has two sisters living: Mame Veber, who is 95 years old, and Myrtle Sparrow, who is 86 years old.



On the east corner across from Cromwell's Store, there was built a hotel which was later destroyed by fire. An opera house and town hall was later built on the same spot. This also burned in 1945. On the corner where the Masonic block is now, there was a large frame general store that was managed at one time by Edgar Parkhurst and Frank Blackmer. The store burned in 1884. In 1886 the Masonic building of the Blackmer block was erected by Captain Lou Jones. At the time the store burned, the blacksmith shop and the wagon shop were also destroyed. At one time there was a saloon owned by the Wickland Brothers which later burned and the village never had a saloon again.



THE OPERA House in Parkman Township, as shown in a circa 1900 photograph.



Amaziah Clark opened a hotel west of the square and was in operations for years. After his death, Hugh Gilmore, Chester Adams, Edwin Orr and Zopher Norton served as hotel keepers, consecutively. Mrs. Elma Lane now owns this house, which was built in 1814. Elma was the daughter of Fortney Atwater. She had a sister, Ethel, now deceased. Elma is the oldest, but one of the most energetic members of the Mothers Club. Mr. Atwater lived on one of the Tinker places-and later on the Parson's place.

The Dryer Family consisted of four boys: Otto, William, Herman, and Walter; and a girl, Clara. William was married to Marian Moore and was killed in a plane crash on our airfield many years ago.

In 1822, after the formation of the 1st Militia Company in Parkman, the laddies united in furnishing a flag by contributing fine linen of their own spinning. The painting of the stars and stripes was done by Barton Avery. When completed, it was presented to the company by Miss Sophia Doty with an address by Mrs. Daniel Owen. Her speech has not been preserved, but the following is a copy of the remarks made to the Ensign by Captain Fairbanks upon acceptance of the flag:

"Ensign, it becomes your duty to take charge of this flag, a present from the patriotic ladies of Parkman. Although in times of peace it is used for parade and ceremony, yet, remember in times of war, it serves as a rallying point for the soldiers. your liberty or your life. "

This was the first flag owned by any company in the county and at the following training at Burton, the Parkman Company marched in front of the others carrying the colors of "Old Glory".

Not once in its years of existence has Parkman lost sight of its ideals of patriotism for the stars and stripes have been unfurled as a standard for the present as well as the oncoming generations.

Over the years there have been many physicians in Parkman. The first was Mr. Scott who lived where the parsonage now stands. He was a very intelligent and gifted man. Next came, Dr. Chase, Dr. Flint, Dr. French, and Dr. George French who later practiced in Burton. Others were Dr. Roberts, Dr. L.U. Howard, Dr. Button, Dr. Vack, Dr. Pay Dr. Smith, Dr. Mealy, and Dr. Chirelli who was our last doctor. He built the building where Mr. and Mrs. Wilson now live and the house where Mr. and Mrs. Parker live.

In 1899 the business section of the town was destroyed by fire. The actual cause was never determined, but it was assumed to be spontaneous combustion for when W. H. Cromwell ascended to the second floor of his grocery store it was in flames. Beside the grocery store, there was a millinery shop owned by Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Purcell, Dave Mace's shoe shop, the Blackmer office building and part of the store owned by A. C. Wygant and Charles Bundy that burned. This was a severe blow to Parkman, but within a year the former wooden buildings were replaced by brick buildings. The Blackmer block was used for the Fire Department and as a meeting place for organizations.

The Town Hall, one of Parkman's oldest buildings was destroyed by fire in May 1945. Fire was discovered at 4:30 in the morning. Middlefield and Garrettsville fire departments fought the blaze, but were unable to save it. In the basement was a hose which had been purchased for our new Fire Department. The town hall had been the scene of 51 high school graduations and held many memories for the whole community.

The Mothers Club was very appreciative of the Fire Department, as they saved the Community House in 1948. They responded very quickly or it would have been burned completely. The kitchen was all burned and part of the floor.

I mentioned before that one of the most interesting societies of Parkman which has done outstanding work in the interest of the town and school is the Mothers Club. It was organized at the suggestion of Lewis Turner, Principal of the school from 1914 to 1916. Fourteen ladies met at the home of Mrs. Ada Moore to discuss the suggestion. Phadima Garber was Chairman, May Hoxter was elected the first President, Mary Rice was Vice-President, Olive Jones was Secretary, and Gertrude Sherwin was Treasurer. From the beginning the club's aim was to help the school. For 24 years the school came first, but after the P.T. A. was organized there was not as much in which they could assist. However, they have been very busy earning money to improve the Community House. Many women have given of their time and effort through the years. The following have served as President: Phadima Garber, Lucy Blair, Clarissa Moore, Cordie Milliken, Olive Jones, Lora Cromwell, Victoria Mottinger, Gertrude Milliken, Rebecca Stacy, Flora Hoxter, Aretta McConnell, Ruby Norton, Clara Lattimore, Alice Crittenden, Maude Giles, Thelma Ferry, Bethel Irwin, Felicia Sitko, Bernice Forestall, and at present Irene Wayne. We have made extensive improvements recently amounting to 5, 117.40 dollars.

Another organization which is doing many things to help the town is the Chamber of Commerce. We had a Homecoming Committee, but they have united with the Chamber of Commerce. I am sure they will be most helpful where ever needed.

The Women's Fellowship has many money making activities. They are helpful to the church financially as well as taking care of social functions and funeral lunches when needed.

Soon after the soldiers returned from World War I, they organized the Clifford Thompson Post of American Legion with a membership of 23. Some of those most interested were: James Farley, Pearl Brown, Walter Minter, Aulden Hazlett, Charles and Carl Haight, Oscar Irwin, Guy Agler, Ernest Hillock, and Howard Fram. The Legion was named after Clifford Thompson, son of our minister, who was Parkman's only casualty of World War I. Ray Johnson, Walter Minter, Guy Agler, and Oscar Irwin are the only members still living. Oscar Irwin is the only one living in Parkman. The Legion planned to build a place for their meetings. At the same time the Mothers Club was looking for a building or a place to build. It so happened that the Old Creamery building, then owned

by John Ohl, was available. So with the help of several people, with both labor and money, the Legion and Mothers Club bought the building. Many dinners and dances and receptions have been held at the hall.

The first Hosmer of whom we have authentic record is James of Sussex, England. One of their children, Stephen, was baptized in 1570. He married Dorothy Selden and moved to Hauxhurst. They had nine children. During the reign of Charles I of England, many people immigrated to America because of political and religious difficulties. Thomas Hosmer came to America and became a free man May 6, 1635, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He left there and moved to Hartford, Connecticut, where he became one of the founders. Zechariah Hosmer was about the fifth generation from Thomas. He was born in 1762. He came to Parkman and settled on Nash Road in 1819. He died there in February 1856. They had ten children. One child, Sylvester, bought three hundred acres about 1 ½ miles north of the center of Parkman. He was very ambitious and with sand and gravel he made bricks to build a nice new home. He also made the bricks for two other houses, one owned by Frank Kovach on Madison Road and the other owned by Mr. Kostelik on Shedd Road. He hauled large stones for steps and window sills. There were three children: Chester who was given a tract of land on the north east side of the farm, and Perry and Amelia who were given the western part of the farm. Chester had two sons: Lee and Sylvester; and a daughter: Stella. Amelia had two sons and two daughters. Perry married Emma Cross and has four daughters and one son. Sylvester married Norma who is still living and had two sons: Chester and Herbert; and a daughter, Stella. Perry and Emma, who was the granddaughter of Joel Cross from Little Ireland, had five children: Mary Morse whose daughter, Leita Tuttle, was post master in Chardon for 35 years, Lora who married William H. Cromwell, Frank who married Lena Riley, Nell who married Jake Thrasher, and Bethel who married Oscar Irwin. Frank was a prosperous farmer, stockholder and director of Middlefield Bank for many years. Lena was a very hard working lady who taught school, among other things, for 35 years. Frank and Lena had two sons who are music teachers and very successful band directors. Rowland and Mary Jean have three daughters, two of them have been to college and are teachers and the other girl is still attending college. Perry and Virginia have three girls: Susie, Jill, and Jane; and a son, Larry. Susie and Jill are both living at home, Jane, who is married, is a teacher, and Larry is an electrician. Nell and Jake have four sons: Perry, Kenneth, Graden, and Gerald. The boys were all very prosperous. Kenneth died at the age of 52. Bethel and Oscar bought the farm where they live when Oscar returned from World War I. He was a very hard worker and quite successful with poultry and dairy farming. They have three children: Jeanette who married Michael Behum, Lora who married Lowell Armstrong, and Barbara who married Douglas Robertson. Jeanette and Michael have three children: Greg, a musician, and Curt, an electrical engineer, have graduated from college and Jeanette Catherine, who is only 13, is a reader, musician, and artist. Michael is an engineer who has worked with Apollo for many years. Lora and Lowell have six children: Scott, Todd, Mark, Beth, Lori, and Lisa— all very good students. Three of them are in college. Lowell is an agricultural engineer. Barbara and Douglas have three daughters: Denise who loves gymnastics, music, and ponies; Kimberly, who loves music, baseball, and ponies; and Eobbi Jo who loves reading, music, and ponies. Douglas is a principal at West Geauga and Barbara is a teacher at Newbury.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Larmi bought a small farm once owned by Mr. Hutch. They had five children: Miriam, Helmi, John, Allen, and Robert. They all graduated from Parkman High School and also from college, becoming teachers and lawyers. John and Roberta still live on the farm. They have four fine children. Helmi and Mrs. Larmi died within a few hours of each other—very sad.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Nelson bought a farm on Madison Road. They came here from Bainbridge. They had two daughters: Norma and Irene Nelson Shirk. Norma was a great help on the farm and is now a clerk in the Middlefield Post Office. Norma was a 4-H leader for several years. Irene has a nice family, Carol Fishel, Marge Brown, Tom Shirk, and Diane Schultcz. She too has been a 4-H leader for many years and an active member in the church.

Another family we must not forget is the Gotham family. Lyle and Mabel (White) Gotham had eight children. There were five sons and three daughters. During World War II, all the boys were in the service. John, the oldest, now lives in Florida. Carlisle was married to Bernice Lynn who is now deceased. They had four children: Robin, Tom, Barry, and Frances. He is now married to Arlene Stoll Henceroth. Carlisle, better known as Kelly, is a mason contractor and his boys work with him. Kelly and Arlene are a fine couple who have raised wonderful children and are active members in the church. Arlene had two daughters, Patricia who is married to Jim Potter and lives near Dayton and Linda who is married to Ralph McGranahan, also active in the church, and has two dear little children. Glen Gotham was star basketball player in high school and now lives in Southington with his family. Leland married Betty Pullman and lives in Parkman. They had two children: Dick who married Sandy and has a cute curly headed boy, Bobby; and Cindy who married Andy Kopas and lives in Solon. Neil was married to Virginia Pratt. They had two daughters: Neila and Valerie. Anona is married to Charles Brewster and they have four children: Anthony, Keren Blue, Carol, and Timothy. Alma is married to Herb Kolm and lives in Auburn. Lillian, the youngest, was married to Max Perrine, now deceased. She is now married to Carl McDivitt and lives in Rochester, Michigan.

Across from Leland Gotham lived a fine family, Frank and Mary Handsel. They were greatly missed. Mary died two years ago and Frank died this past winter. They have three pretty daughters: Cathy, Franny, and Barbara, who are all married with children. Mary had a long and serious sickness. Frank Handsel's sister was married to Don Urpi.

Another family we must not forget are Paul and Faye Chilkowski, such fine people. Faye was sick a long time and very seriously. Paul runs the Kool Lakes. They have two pretty daughters: Paula and Susan, who will soon be changing her name.

Five fine men have died in Parkman within a few months: Dick Whetson, Harry Mishko, Alvin Podboy, Larry Pace, and Vernon Gates. We miss them all. Dick and Edna and Harry and Lena were very helpful to the Mothers Club, and Mr. and Mrs. Podboy were helpful in organizing the Chamber of Commerce. Podboys have four very well educated sons.

In 1815 Jacob Gates, from Oswego, New York, made the first settlement in the northeast part of the township on Swine Creek, now known as Bundysburg. He settled 'a farm owned by Cyrus Hurd, started clearing land, but died in 1816. Henry Bills, a brother-in-law, settled on a farm and lived on the farm now owned by Maria Gates. He died in Illinois and was a Veteran of the War of 1812. Warham Gates came at the same time and settled on a farm owned by Lydia Hartman. The house is still standing. Another Mr. French had land known as the Ainsie Tract. The third French brother settled on the farm later owned by Mr. Brace and later owned by Asaheh Reeves. The road was named after them. The father lived with them and lived to be 104 years old.

In 1816, Ephraim and Moses Bundy immigrated from Southampten, Massachusetts, traveling the whole way with ox teams. After reaching Buffalo, New York, they made the journey on ice along the shores of Lake Erie. They crossed the Grand River at Harpersfield in canoes, with the oxen swimming and pulling the wagons by means of ropes. They settled in Thompson and then decided to join the Gates' in Bundysburg. There they found their brother, Elisha, who had come with the Gates; it was an unexpected surprise as neither knew that the other was in the state until they met in the wilderness. They each purchased farms in the vicinity and gave the name of Bundysburg to the settlement.

Moses Bundy brought his wife, four sons, and one daughter to their new home—a log cabin of only one room, without a floor, windows, or doors. It was improved as money was available. In 1820 Warham French built a saw mill, the first in that part of the township, and continued in business. The three Bundy brothers, Ephraim, Elisha, and Joseph, settled Bundysburg. Mr. Edwin Baird owned property there also. I have talked about his family previously. Edwin Bundy moved to Parkman and purchased the big brick house, known as the Bundy house, which was built in 1843.

In the early years, when the woods were full of game, it was the custom to go hunting on Christmas. In 1816 several men, including Nathaniel Moore, went hunting. They struck on the track of a bear at the headwaters of Swine Creek and followed him to a large tree on the farm of Silas Young. Thinking the bear had climbed the tree, they decided to fell it. Silas Young, on horseback, went home for a supply of food—venison and johnny cake. Five men chopped all day and when it fell they ran to the top and found there was no bear. It was a chestnut tree in perfectly sound condition. It measured nine feet in diameter and one hundred and five feet tall. By adding the years, they found the growth began in the century of the Christian era, or it would have been 864 years old.

Our first Masonic Lodge was instituted in 1817. A building was built on the east side of the square. In 1825, the Lodge started a frame building, but it was never finished. In 1828, with anti-Masonic sentiment having been created. Western Phoenix Lodge passed out of existence. In December 1856, another -dispensation was ordered by Deputy Grand Master. We now have a thriving Lodge.

Phoenix Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, was organized in 1910. The Charter members were: Ella Moore, Mrs. Nellie Farley, J. R. Taggart, John Ohl, Mr. Carrie Ohl, Florence Gates, Mrs. John Taggart, Wallace Owen, G. B. Gates, Mary Smith, Olive Smith, Mr. Louie Gates, Mrs. Stella Owen, L. B. Parsons, Mrs. Seraph Parsons, Mrs. Mary Hoxter, Mrs. Julia Jonas. Ella Moore was Worthy Matron. Our present Worthy Matron is Dawn Swift Hall and our worthy Patron is Donald Swift.

A businessman, Billy Moore, who was very successful came to Parkman and had a garage in the Blackmer Block. Later after the town hall burned, he built a gas station and garage, which now stands and is owned by Standard Oil Company, Managed, by Cliff Pitcher. Pitchers are fine people. Mrs. Pitcher and her three sons: Cliff, Milo, and Vern.

Mr. and Mrs., Billy Moore were fine citizens, always working for good of the town in every way. They had two sons, Walter and Robert who are also good Parkmanites.

One of our most enterprising citizens in Parkman was W. H. Cromwell. He attended high school and then, became a registered pharmacist. He returned and opened a drug store which he operated for 45 years. In 1939 he sold it to Al George and Arthur Burnett. Later Al George purchased Mr. Burnett's share. Will was county commissioner for 14 years. To his credit goes the building of two

federal and state roads across Geauga County. One from Cleveland to Youngstown, and the other from Painesville to Ravenna. He was a director of Middlefield Bank, and also Vice-President and a Director of the Geauga County Fair Board. He was President of Parkman Volunteer Fire Department and a Charter Member of the Buckeye Band. He was chairman of the Liberty Loan Company during World War I. His first wife, Stella Mintern, died in 1918. They had one daughter, Charlotte, a popular girl in her high school days. Will died in 1953.

We mentioned the Jim Soltis family, but did not mention Emil who married Bernice Yarhous. They had two daughters: Geraldine, a teacher, and Judy, a business lady; and a son, Larry. Also, Eddie married Bernice Gardener, sister of Bonnie Benyo. Bonnie and Frank have four pretty daughters. Eddie and Bernice had four daughters and a son.

Leonard and Elsie Hopkins were some of our special people who bought the Dry Goods Store. They were wonderful Parkmanites. We surely miss them since they have moved to Florida. They have two fine daughters: Beverly and Sherri, and a son, Delbert. A very enjoyable family.

In 1923, W. W. Moore and his two sons, Walter and Robert, came to Parkman and operated a garage and service station in the building which has been used by the Fire Department. In 1939, they purchased the lot occupied by the Congregational Church. The church was moved and Moore built a new garage. In 1946, he sold it to Standard Oil Company. Mr. and Mrs. Moore were very fine and accommodating people. Clarissa has been very faithful to the Mothers Club. She held different offices for many years. She has written a complete history of the Mothers Club which was very much enjoyed by the members. Mr. and Mrs. Moore now live most of the year in Florida.

Dr. Conrad is one who must not be forgotten. A self-made veterinarian who was always ready to doctor all animals, whether cow, horse, cat, or dog. He was an animal lover.

Several years ago, a Home Coming Committee was organized. Several of our citizens: Kelly Gotham, Paul Chilkowski, Irene Shirk, Lucy Mingo, Felicia Sitko, and many more participated. However, we do not have a Home Coming, but the Dance Committee is now officiating. Bill and Charlotte Snyder, Bett and Blaine Chalker, George and Edna Breitenbach, Helen and Bob Kinson, and Bea and Jim Everett; have been very successful with the dances.

Bill and Charlotte are a fine couple who have four nice children. Bob and Helen are real pals and an energetic couple who have a daughter, Carolyn, and a son, Greg. Mr. and Mrs. Breitenbach have six fine girls. Betty and Blaine have five lovely children, and Jim and Bea have two sons and a daughter.

Earl Johnson, grandson of O. C. Smith and son of Hattie Johnson, has been in Parkman most of his life, until the death of Hazel, his wife. She died in 1974. She was a very pretty lady who attended Burton High School. She and Earl had a daughter, Janice, who married David Slota. They have one daughter, Diane, and two sons, Gary and Mark.

The Trustees had a letter from Roberto Ibonez Parkman from Mexico City. He would be the third or fourth generation from Robert Parkman, Sr. He would like to come to Parkman to visit if we are having a bi-centennial celebration. We are not certain if he will come or not.

## SUPPLEMENT

On Madison Road, we mentioned Renseless Owen who was the son of Samuel Owen who lived in the house now owned by Dan Miller, was once owned by Carl Sheffield. He and Mr. Sheffield have two daughters. Dorothy Kimbal who is a popular beauty operator and Charlotte lives in Florida.

The next pioneer homes were owned by Mr. Hatch and Mr. Cook. John and Roberta Larmi live in the Hutch home. Their children are: Joyce Parysek, Sandy Pfenniger, Raymond, and Carol. An Amish family by the name of Weaver live in Mr. Cook's pioneer home. There was a large family of Cooks: Charles, Bert, Rudy, Elva, Lula, and Lillie. They are all deceased. Charles was Ruth Smith's father.

The next two places were built by John and William Reynolds. There was a sister, who married Mr. Sheldon. John Reynolds had two children, William and Agnes. William had three sons: Charlie, Jack and Robert; and two daughters: Maxine (Pat) Miller and Mary Beaty. Pat has two children and Mary has two sons and a daughter. They are very fine families. Charlie was accidentally killed when seventeen years old. It has been a mystery and great sorrow. Arline passed away in February from cerebral hemorrhage.

Clarissa Moore was a Hopkins before she married. There were several children in the Hopkins family: Clarissa, Richard, and Johnny who lived in Parkman at one time. I mentioned Walter and Robert, Clarissa and Billy's sons. They have been important businessmen in Parkman and Middlefield. Richard's wife had a son, William Dunkirk, by her first marriage. He is a well-educated and fine man. Together Richard and his wife had four children: Betty who married Carl Wilson who is also a resident of Parkman, Dick who was severely burned and died, Clarence, and Jerry. Betty and Carl are a very nice, happy couple. They have three children: Judy, Jim, and Eddie; all of whom are married.

Another family that has lived here for many years are the Dolegals. Only one of the five children, Buck who married Ethel, is living in Parkman. Buck and Ethel have four children, three very pretty girls: Faith, Jackie, and Judy; and one boy: Mark.

There were six children: Tim, Tom, Susan, Scott, Judy and Jill; in the Glenwood Ferry family instead of five as previously mentioned—sorry that we missed one before.

Etta and Paul Cone had one daughter, Paula. She has been very active in Eastern Star and has made Phoenix Chapter proud by being Deputy of our District. She married David Staib. Both Paula and David are teachers, and very exemplary ones we are sure. They have a son, Eric, and a daughter, Carla. Both are very good students who are active in school affairs.

Bert Giles and his sister, Mrs. Horton, came to Parkman many years ago. Bert married Maude Cox, a very neat and attractive lady. They were in the meat business for many years, living on the corner on Tavern Road toward the cemetery. They had a son, Kenneth. Kenneth worked with his father. He married Eleanor May, a grand person. She has been ill with sugar diabetes and arthritis for many years. They had a son, Richard, who married Jean DeGroft, a very capable teacher. Richard and Jean have three daughters: Marsha who married Jerry Komandt and is living in India, Dixie who married Henry Warner and lives in Parkman, and Terry who is a student in high school. They are very fine daughters and son-in-law's. Marsha and Dixie each have two pretty little girls.

Bert Evans is living on the farm which was settled by his grandfather, Silas, and was previously owned by Dan. Dan had a son by his first wife named Fred. Fred has several children. Roger, who married Helen, lives on Nash Road. They are a delightful couple and have a son, Keith, who is married and has children.

The Handsel children were: Kathy, Frannie, Barbara, Jimmie, and Frankie. Frankie died of a brain tumor when only five years old. Jimmie is in the Army as a career. This was a very fine family.

A few additional words about the Mother's Club. At present we have about fifteen active members. Irene Wayne, our President, is a good cook, has a good word for everyone, and is usually happy. She and Merle have a son, Jerry, who is married and they have three children. Jerry is well educated and has very good position. Bruce is married and has a fine wife and daughter, Carolyn who married Michael Loze. Carolyn and Michael have two dear little children. Michael's mother is a famous cake baker.

Ethel Kilby is a hard worker. We really get things done when she is there to help. She has three daughters: Carol, Alice, and Debbie. Alice has a little girl, Jennifer.

Felicia Sitko, who is Treasurer, is also a very hard worker. She and Jim have five lovely daughters and four sons. Felicia was President for seven or eight years and was also custodian for several years. She would be greatly missed.

Pearl Stoll is a very hard worker. Right now, Pearl is very lame with arthritis. We surely cannot get along without Pearl. Hope she gets better soon.

Ollie Pavlick is also like Ethel, full of ambition when her health permits. For sometime she worked for her sister-in-law in a dress shop after her husband died. She then lived with Helvi until her death and now makes her home with Ethel. Such a kind person.

Bernice Forrestall has been a very hard worker for many years at the cafeteria in Hiram College. She was President of the Mothers Club for two years and a very good one. Her health is not so good now, but hope it will soon be better.

Elnia Lane is our oldest member and is very faithful indeed. She is very spry. Her daughter married Frank Mintern, Wilbur's son. Wilbur had two more sons and a daughter, Stella Lavisee.

Iola Fuller, a petite little lady, is very energetic and willing to assist people with transportation. She has a son and several grandchildren—a very happy family.

Lena Mishko has had many troubles. Two years ago she had to have heart surgery and now wears' a pacemaker. Her husband died very suddenly this year, however, Lena is her own sweet self, always helping wherever she can. She and Harry have two fine daughters and grandchildren.

Ruth Smith, Evelyn Blackford, and Bethel Irwin are still very active in the Mothers Cub – baking ect.

Ruth is a famous pie baker. She is a descendant of the pioneer Benjamin Tinker who was her great grandfather. Her grandfather, Bert Tinker, owned land on which she and Arnold built their house. She has been a member of the Mothers Club for more than forty years.

Evelyn helps bake and encourages us. She has a very good memory, and we can always get dates and information from her.

Behel has been a member for over 50 years. Her sister, Lora, was a member even longer. She had been President four or five times. She was a very hard worker. Bethel likes to work in the kitchen or play the piano.

Flora Hoxter has also been a faithful member for many years, and was President of the club more than once. She and Roger have two children: Ronald and Hazel, who are both very musical. Hazel has sung at many weddings and other occasions.

In the last few years we have lost many of our members of 50 years: Laura Cromwell, Maude Giles, Hattie Cone, Alma Ainsley, Mary Handsel, Dorothy Hillock, and Clara Lattimore, We have also lost some members who were not with us quite as long: Hazel Johnson, Ruby Norton, Elizabeth Agler, Fannie Olmstead, Ruth Hayes, and Arline Reynolds, We surely miss them all.

## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **When All Is Done**

**When all is done  
And my last word is said,  
And ye who loved me,  
Murmur, "He is Dead. "  
Let no one weep  
For fear that I should know and  
sorrow too.  
That ye should sorrow so.  
When all is done  
Say not "My day is o'er",  
And that through night I seek a dimmer shore,  
Say rather that "Morn. Has  
Just Begun"**

**Paul Dunbar.**