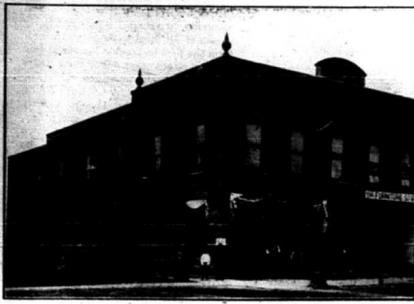


A. B. C. COMSTOCK, Pioneer Hardware Dealer and Prominent Citizen



BUSINESS BLOCK OF A. B. C. COMSTOCK

Among the many mercantile enterprises of Gaylord the hardware establishment of A. B. C. Comstock is prominent. It is a business of which any town could justly feel proud, and here the buying public can find any article in the hardware line, together with the latest improved farm implements and tools, and a complete stock of carriages and wagons. This store enjoys a fine patronage and is worthy of the success it has achieved through the management of its proprietor.

Mr. Comstock is the pioneer hardware dealer of Otsego county. When he came to Gaylord it was a mere hole in the woods, but with remarkable foresight he saw that it was destined to be a place with a future, and subsequent events have proven that his confidence was not misplaced. Being a broad minded business man he branched out into other lines and in 1892 became the head of the Otsego County Bank. He also purchased considerable



A. B. C. COMSTOCK

land throughout the county, some of which he improved and sold some of which he still owns. He always has had great faith in the stability of Gaylord and to this end has done much to preserve it. His business block on Main street is among the most substantial in our town, while his residence is fittingly accorded a high place among the many fine homes for which Gaylord is justly famous.

In political faith Mr. Comstock is an unwavering Republican. He has been elected Supervisor of Livingston township three times, served a part of one term as county treasurer, and at the present time holds the important position of chairman of the county poor board. Socially he is a 32d degree Mason and actively connected with the local lodge, having served a number of years as master. Personally he is an upright enterprising citizen, ever on the alert to advance the interests of Gaylord and Otsego county.



RESIDENCE OF A. B. C. COMSTOCK

L. A. STEVENSON

Jeweler and Optician
Every town of any pretension has its jewelry stores, but no town the size of Gaylord, or even larger, has one



that can compare with the establishment of L. A. Stevenson. Since becoming settled in his new store the goods are displayed to the best possible advantage and present a fine appearance. Mr. Stevenson is a practical jeweler and is ably assisted by his son. He handles only high grade goods and stands back of any article he sells. Diamonds and other precious stones, fine watches, the latest novelties in brooches, pins, lockets, etc., are found in his stock, together with a fine line of silver tableware.

Repairing of all kinds is promptly attended to and a special department is devoted to this work, equipped with all the latest improved devices necessary to successfully carry on the work. Another department of especial interest is the optical department. Here the eye can be tested and fitted accurately and scientifically. Mr. Stevenson is a graduate of the Detroit Optical College and thoroughly understands the needs of the eye.

A fine line of American and imported china ware is carried in stock and many dainty creations in these beautiful goods are here from which to select.



Mr. Stevenson has lately moved into a new new cement block store and his sales rooms are marvellous of beauty and neatness. This gentleman has been here for a number of years and during that time has built up a fine trade in his line.

ADVANTAGES OF GAYLORD AS A MANUFACTURING POINT

The gradual transition of the pathless forest into a first lumbering district, then into a farming and manufacturing country, has been effected in our county in a remarkably short time. The demands of the pioneer are few, and easily satisfied, but with the influx of population, and the diversity of occupations attendant upon an older settled country, the demand is constantly for the more modern necessities and luxuries of life. This demand must be met either by importation or local manufacture.

Gaylord has all of the advantages which would tend to make a town successful as a manufacturing centre of products for which the surrounding country can supply the raw material. Good transportation facilities, advantageous location, an abundance of the raw material, entire absence of friction between the productive forces, capital and labor—cheap fuel and cheap living, in one of the most healthful cities in Michigan.

Wood is now, and will continue to be, the most widely useful material for construction. In spite of all of the substitutes for it in the shape of metal, stone and other materials, the consumption of wood in civilized countries has never decreased. In fact, applications in new directions have increased its use beyond the saving effected by substitutes.

The great advance in the price of timber and timbered lands in the last few years has entirely revolutionized the destructive methods of lumbering and manufacture of wooden commodities of a few years ago. The progressive lumberman of to-

day leaves nothing of value on the ground, and it is generally conceded, that under present conditions, to manufacture at a profit the factory must be located near the supply of timber, in order to save the large difference between the cost of transportation of the raw material and the finished product.

A conservative estimate places the amount of timber still standing in Otsego County at 600,000,000 feet consisting of hard maple, hemlock, elm, beech, basswood, birch, cedar and pine, the relative quantities of each varying in the order named, by far the greater part of the timber being maple. All of this timber is available from Gaylord, either by moderate steigh haul or rail. The Michigan Central passing through Gaylord and the country north and south, and the Boyne City, Gaylord & Alpena, which will be completed to Gaylord in a few weeks, passing through the county east and west. The main lines of these roads, with their many logging branches, reaches all the timber in the county, and a great deal in adjacent counties, making Gaylord the natural centre to which the timber of the surrounding country can be most advantageously and cheaply shipped for the purpose of manufacturing.

It is the extent and the importance of the timber interests here may be emphasized by the statement that **GAYLORD IS SITUATED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE LARGEST TRACT OF HARD MAPLE IN THE WORLD TO-DAY.**

The advantages of this location is appreciated

by two large factories, mentioned elsewhere in this issue, which are at present located at Gaylord. **THE TIMBER SUPPLY IS SUFFICIENT TO KEEP SEVERAL LARGE INSTITUTIONS STOCKED FOR THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS,** and the added railroad facilities make it certain that other industries will locate here in the near future.

The large amount of building in Gaylord and the country and villages, makes a brisk trade in lumber, sash, doors, and general builders' supplies, and we predict that in the near future we will have a factory of this kind, which will supply the local wholesale and retail trade with material manufactured here.

While timber interests are paramount in discussing the manufactures of Gaylord, there are other branches well worthy of consideration. Over a quarter of a million bushels of potatoes are shipped from our village annually, making it an exceptionally good location for the manufacture of any of the many products made from the potato. In the near vicinity of Gaylord are to be found valuable beds of clay and marl, which offer good opportunities for the manufacture of clay and cement.

The development of our county is in its infancy, and the opportunity for the man with capital who is looking for an investment, and the man with brawn, muscle and intellect who desires to work, is unlimited, and those who are looking for a location we invite to visit our village and investigate its unusual advantages.

FRANK J. SHIPP.

The profession of veterinary surgeon has become one wherein every interest of animalkind takes a deep interest. Gaylord and vicinity is fortunate in having a first class veterinary in the person of Dr. A. J. Smith, who graduated from the Detroit Veterinary College last spring.



Dr. Smith has all the latest apparatus for successfully treating the diseases peculiar to horses and cattle, uses only remedies of known value and is very successful in his practice.

GAYLORD CHURCHES

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AND PARSONAGE



Gaylord Baptist Church was organized with twelve members in 1880 by a Rev. Wm. Putnam who acted as supply pastor for this struggling little band of believers for nearly three years. The first regular pastor was J. H. Marsh whose ministry extended over two years. As yet the church was small numerically and for several years after this did not support a

regular pastor, but all the time kept up the Sunday School and weekly prayer meeting, with occasional preaching.

The frame of the present church edifice was begun in 1884 and soon after the chapel part was inclosed and all services were conducted in it. But the auditorium was not completed till eleven years later or in 1895, during

which time faithless and skeptical ones predicted that it would never be completed. However by 1885 the heroic and struggling band of ladies had succeeded in getting together something over \$200, when Rev. A. P. McDonald came to the rescue, rallied the forces and finished the auditorium, dedicating the building June 23, 1885. The membership then was forty. Rev. J. W. Thompson was then called to the pastorate and soved the church for a little over a year. In the spring of 1897 Rev. R. C. Fenner, now of Cadillac, was called to the pastorate continuing faithfully his services for five years. During this term of years the membership was more than doubled, the edifice beautified and a splendid and palatial parsonage built and paid for all except \$400.

At the expiration of this term Rev. McBain Milne came serving the church one year.

The present pastor, Rev. F. Dewey Ehle, came to this church nearly two years ago, during which time 79 have been added to the membership, 67 of them by baptism. A mission Sunday School has been established and is maintained at Salling, with preaching every alternate Sunday. During the last two years 8900 have been raised

for improvements, paying off the parsonage mortgage and extensively improving the church property. The present membership is 166.



Rev. F. Dewey Ehle came to Gaylord in fall of 1904. It was mainly through his efforts that the parsonage mortgage was paid and the great improvements to the church building were successfully carried on. His success as an evangelist was shown at several revivals in Gaylord during the past year.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND PARSONAGE

As an illustration of the hardships and privations of pioneer life in Gaylord the formation and erection of the Congregational church can be cited with interest. This church is the oldest religious organization in Gaylord. In 1874 missionary services were conducted in a small building in the west part of town by Rev. James McKay. He was succeeded by several in succession until 1878, when Rev. A. Van Auken arrived on the field. The members now considered themselves sufficiently strong to go ahead and build a place of worship, and Rev. A. Van Auken, W. H. Fillmore and C. C. Mitchell were appointed as a building committee. The present site was selected and the main part of the building that stands today erected and dedicated in December, 1879. Rev. Van Auken remained as pastor two years, resigning on account of poor health. Services were conducted alternately for some time by Rev. C. P. Cripps, Rev. A. Van Auken and Geo. Badcom.

Since that time the church has been served by the following pastors: J. S. Malle, Robert Humphrey, Joseph Glasson, W. H. Miller, J. A. Curham, J. A. Wood, G. W. Stillwell, Mrs. Clara Buell, Johnathan Turner, Rev. F. C. Wood, Rev. Chas. Daines, Rev. W. C.



Allen came in the summer of 1904, and is the present pastor.

During the pastorate of Rev. C. Wood the church building was remodeled and enlarged and is now accounted one of the beautiful buildings in town. The parsonage was moved to its present location and enlarged. The church has a membership of 95, and is in a prosperous condition.

The Seventh Day Adventists have a small church with a fair membership, but no regular minister.

The Salvation Army has a good following here, with a nice meeting room and large attendance at services.

Latter Day Saints have services every Sunday evening in the Elliott hall, with a fairly good membership.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH



the first pastor. He was followed by Rev. W. B. Pope, during whose ministry the first church building, now occupied by the Hart & Mitchell Co, was erected in 1882.

Since Mr. Pope, the church has been served as follows: 1883-4, P. J. Wright; 1884-7, Geo. N. Kennedy; 1887-8, W. J. Balmer; 1888-9, R. N. Mulholland; 1889-91, E. A. Cross; 1891-2, E. B. Ryan and J. T. Hankinson; 1892-4, H. H. Culver; 1894-5, G. H. Fee; 1896-7, W. H. Allman; 1897-9, Seth Reed; 1899-00, D. E. Birch; 1900-2, F. S. Hurlburt; 1902-5, H. J. B. Marsh.

During the pastorate of Rev. Seth Reed the old church property on East Main street was sold and the present fine church was erected on the corner of F and Second streets.

A fine modern house was built for a parsonage during the pastorate of Rev. F. S. Hurlburt, the whole making a piece of church property unsurpassed for desirability and convenience.

There are at present in the neighborhood of 120 members. The Epworth League and aid organizations are in a flourishing condition.



Rev. H. J. B. Marsh is closing the third year of his pastorate in Gaylord, and during his residence here has been an indefatigable worker. It is the desire of the entire community that the conference return him for another year. Under his administration the church is prospering finely.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH AND PARSONAGE



Rev. Fr. S. Pogganiski came to St. Mary's church in August, 1904, and since that time has made many friends both in and out of his congregation. He is broad-minded in his views and takes great interest in everything that pertains to the advancement of our town.

The old St. Mary's church was built in 1881 by Rev. Francis X. Shulak, a Jesuit missionary, who used to visit this place about four times a year. He obtained from the Michigan Central Railroad Co. two lots on which the present new church stands. The first resident pastor was Rev. L. Opyrchalski, who took charge of the congregation in March 1888 and stayed for about one year. After his departure the people were attended from Saginaw by Rev. V. Zaleski until, in 1890, Rev. M. Grochowski was appointed pastor, who also stayed about one year, being succeeded by Rev. Alex. Lipinski. In 1892 came Rev. C. Skory and stayed continuously until August 1904, when he was succeeded by the present incumbent, Rev. Simon Pogganiski.

The new church building, the finest in town, was erected in 1899, the old church being removed to make room for it. The congregation counts about 200 families, mostly of Polish nationality, and is in a prosperous condition financially and otherwise. Services are held every Sunday in English, and in Polish.

