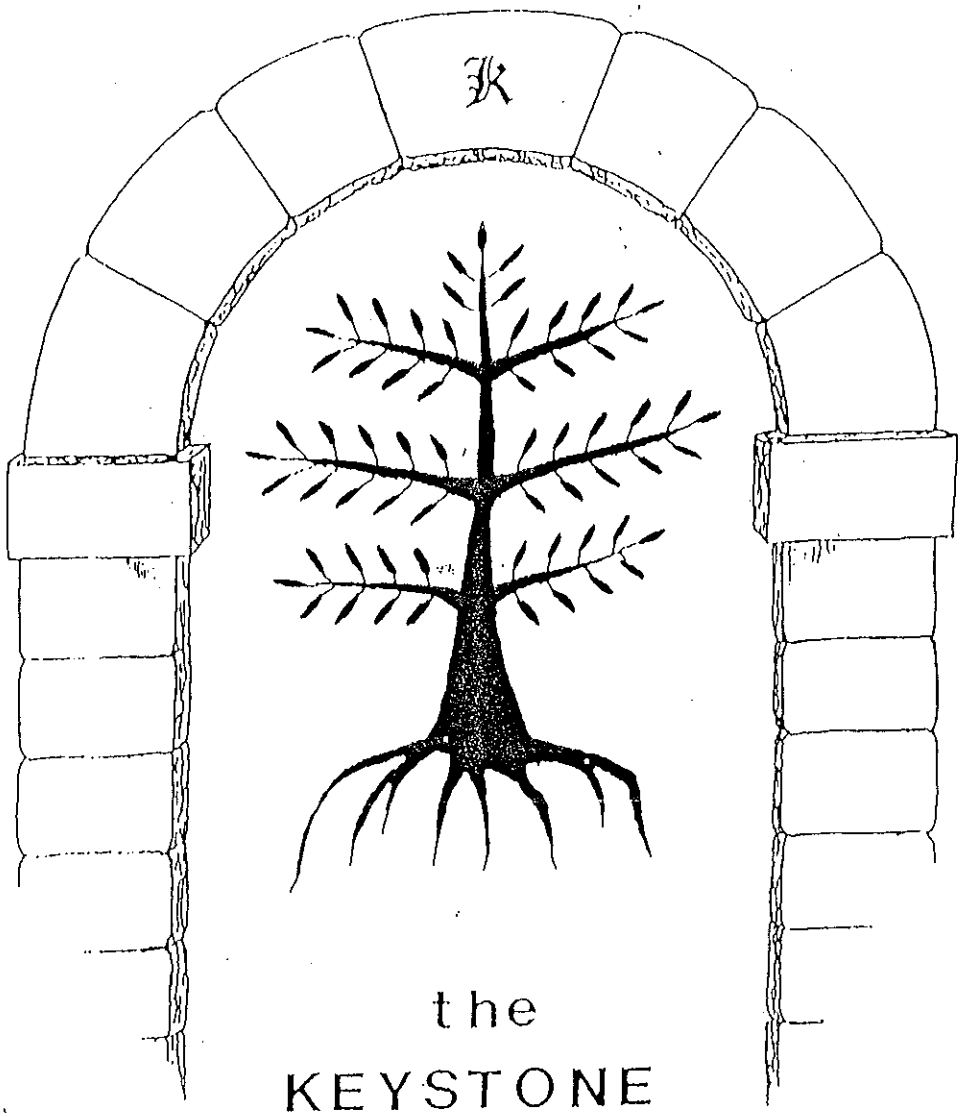
VOLUME 20, No. 2

OCTOBER, 2006



the KEYSTONE NEWSLETTER

Gaylord Fact Finders Genealogical Society

P. O. Box #1524

Gaylord, Michigan 49734

GAYLORD FACT FINDERS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX #1524
GAYLORD, MICHIGAN 49734-5524

Volume 20, No. 2 *October, 2006*

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Publisher of ***"THE KEYSTONE"*** is the Gaylord Fact Finders Genealogical Society, a non-profit organization. Publication is in January, April, July, and October. Annual dues are $10.00 per individual) or $12.00 per family), and are **DUE BY THE MAY MEETING EACH YEAR.** If the dues have not been received, that member will not receive the July issue of ***"THE KEYSTONE."*** Regular meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month (August – November, and March – June) temporarily at the Otsego County Library, 700 S. Otsego, Gaylord, Michigan.

This issue contains the Library Corner; Latin dates; Non-existent towns; Up-coming events; Poll Tax Facts; Some German web-sites; St. Albans Lists; and continues land-owners of Otsego County, c. 1930;

LIBRARY CORNER

"POLISH FIRST NAMES" Call 929.1 Kna

By Sophie Hodorowicz Knab

(Exc. From book jacket.)

"Choosing the name of a child is as important today as it was centuries ago, and should be given much thought and consideration. After all, it is a child's name that will set him or her apart from others. Often, it is the first word a child will learn to speak.

"Every nation possesses its own unique treasury of names to draw upon when a newborn arrives. This book is aimed to help one become acquainted with both modern and traditional Polish first names.

"Polish names are used beginning in ancient times. The earlier names include native names categorized as Old Polish or Slavic in origin. During this period (before 966 A.D.), people lived in nomadic clans and tribes, hunting and gathering, and faced numerous environmental dangers as well as tribal enemies. It was strongly believed that a child would develop the characteristics of whomever or whatever he/she was named after. For example, the name "*Wladyslaw*" comes from Polish roots *Wlad* (ruler) and *slaw* (fame, glory, renown). Joined together, the name depicts a famous or glorious ruler. These combined names have few English equivalents, although many Polish names such as *Wladyslaw* and Stanislaw were erroneously changed to Walter and Stanley.

"The second group of names dates from Poland's acceptance of Christianity in 966 A.D. After that date, the Church required individuals to receive baptismal names with Christian significance. At baptism, when they were "born again," early Christians assumed new personal names---invariable the names of exemplary persons and saints who had gone before them. Popular Polish names such as *Krysztof* and *Magdalena* can be traced back to the Old and New Testaments.

"The Church appointed certain calendar days as belonging to certain saints. In Europe, throughout the Middle Ages, it was customary to name an infant after the saint upon whose feast day he or she had been born. (In this book, the feast dates given for each name are those most commonly accepted; they are indicative of the date of the saint's death, or the translation date of his/her relics.) If the saint's name was suitable and pleased the parents and family, it was used. However, if the parent wanted another name, another saint's name was used. This ensured that the infant would fall immediately under that saint's protection. Parents who did not adhere to the rules chose a name the family desired without any regard to the calendar. But, the name was always a Catholic one, derived from the Old or New Testament or from the lives of the saints.

"The custom of naming a child after a saint led to the celebration of that saint's day as the child's "name day" or "feast day." In many parts of Europe, such as Spain, Italy, France, Greece and Poland, celebrating the name day was far more important than celebrating the actual birth-day. The name day, called *inieniny* in Polish, signified the feast of the saint whose name was received in baptism.

"The "baptismal" saint became, in essence, the child's hero or heroine, and a special patron throughout life. As a child matured, he or she was told of the stories and legends relating to his/her special saint. The child was instructed to pray to that saint every day for help and guidance, and to derive inspiration from that saint's kind acts towards others.

"In this book, diminutive names are also included. Christian name diminutives often become the "pet names" or "nick-names" used within the family and by close friends as terms of endearment. Some of the ancient Polish spellings would make for unique names themselves.

"One of the key needs of young people today is a source of identity, of knowing who they are and where they came from. They need heroes and heroines in their lives, whether it is a grandmother, who traveled alone in steerage to begin a new life in America, or a 14th century saint whose life was devoted to the care of the sick and the poor."

EXPLANATION OF LATIN DATE REFERENCES:

"How often have you encountered the abbreviations "inst." "prox." And "ult." In historical documents and newspapers in reference to dates, and wondered what they meant? \

"For example, in a report of a ship's arrival, an item might say, "On Monday night, the 23rd inst." Or "the ship left Halifax on the 12th ult.", or "the trial will be held on the 24th prox."

"These are Latin abbreviations, which were commonly used by newspaper editors in the past. Their meanings are:

"inst." is short for instant, and means "in the current month."

"ult." is short for ultimo, and means in the preceding month (before the current month.),

"prox." Is short for proximo, and means "in the next month (following the current month).

(from the Flint Genealogical Society Quarterly v. 48 No. 2-3)

TOWNS THAT NO LONGER EXIST-----

To find a non-existent town in the United States, write:

U.S. Board of Geographic Names
523 National Center
Reston, Virginia 22092

(From Genealogical Journal of Jefferson County, New York, March, 1993)

THE SEXTON AND THE STONE

A sexton in England undertook a project to map all the graves in the churchyard and to create a complete record of the individuals buried there. After years of work and research, he had identified all of the stones but one. The stone, flat on the ground and directly behind the old church, bore only the initials H.W.P. The sexton dug through every church record and could find not record of anyone with those initials.

One day the plumber was working on the old water pipes in the church and chatting with the sexton, who proceeded to tell him with pride about his project, and added that he was greatly troubled by the fact that one stone remained unidentified. The plumber asked which stone that might be, and the sexton pointed out the flat stone.

The plumber smiled and replied that he could solve that mystery, since he had placed that particular stone there himself---- H.W.P. marks the location of the Hot Water Pipe.

UP-COMING EVENTS:

Aug 15 – 18, 2007 – FGS Conference, Ft. Wayne, Indiana

SOME GERMAN WEB-SITES:

Male First Names (without any English equivalent) –
http://german.about.com/library/blgenevoc.htm

18th Century Pennsylvania German Naming Customs –
http://www.kerchner.com/germname.html

German-Jewish Naming Practices –
Http://www.kittymunson.com/Thannhauser/TheKaufmannName.html

Cross reference to Czech, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Slovak, Russian or Yiddish given first names, to their English equivalents –
http://www.rootsweb.com/~scoconee/names.html

Family history and German Church records –
http://groups.msn.com/GermanGenealogy/familyhistoryandgermanchurchrecords.msnw

MICHIGAN RECORDS ON-LINE:

The Library of Michigan has a useful web-site to assist genealogists from their home computer.

Log on to: www.michigan.gov/hal and explore the variety of topics. For example, if you click on to Services and Collections, then to Genealogy and then to Online Resources you will find that you can access the 1870 Michigan Census, Michigan Naturalizations Records Index, Michigan County Clerks Directory (which gives the address, hours open, dates of vital records, requirements for acquiring a record, and costs). Explore this site for useful Michigan information.

(from Kinship Tales, Vol 22 #2, February, 2005)

NORTH OF THE BORDER: The St. Albans Lists (by Tim Dougherty)

The St. Albans lists are a valuable source for those with immigrant ancestors who traversed the Canadian/U.S. border between 1895 and 1954. Two National Archives publications contain th3e Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, VT District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports 1895 – 1954, and Manifests of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, VT District through Canadian Pacific Ports, 1929 – 1949. The titles are something of a misnomer, as immigrant crossings all along the international border are included. Before October 1, 1906, the records include only immigrants born outside Canada.

Two separate Soundex indexes for these lists cover 1896 – 1924, and 1924 – 1952. After June, 1917, the index usually excludes passage west of the North Dakota/Montana border, and after July 1, 1927, the index generally excludes arrivals west of Lake Ontario. Therefore, the index is only complete between 1895 and June, 1917. The index cards are informative, but a researcher should, of course, consult the actual manifest.

The manifests are arranged by year, then month, then alphabetically by port of entry. They resemble ship passenger manifests and include age, place of birth, ethnicity, and brief physical descriptions, such as height and hair color. They list occupation, last permanent address and final destination, whether or not the person had previously been in the U.S., and for how long. When applicable, the seaport of landing in Canada is noted, along with other useful information.

In working from index to manifest, there are caveats to note. Dates in the index will not match the date on the manifest. Index dates are date of admission to U.S. The manifests reflect the dates the lists were compiled. If an index entry lists a date late in the month, the immigrant will likely appear on the next month's manifest. Secondly, if an indexed name does not appear with the rest of the family, it may appear in the lower margin of the manifest, as names were frequently recorded there.

I knew that my own grandmother, a native of North Dakota, had resided in Alberta for a time, and that her father had been born in Canada, but not much more. Using the St. Albans lists, I discovered that my great-grandfather traveled from Vegreville, Alberta to Duluth, Minnesota in December of 1919, and that the remainder of the family followed two months later. The family had been in Canada over eleven years. I learned that my great-grandfather was born in Uxbridge, Ontario, and my great grandmother in Perham, Minnesota. These previously unknown details helped me clear stumbling blocks in my research. Perhaps the St. Albans lists can do the same for you.

(From Genealogy Gems, #12, February 28, 2005)

YOUR VOTE COUNTS

In 1776 – 1 vote gave America the English language instead of German;

In 1845 – 1 vote brought Texas into the Union;

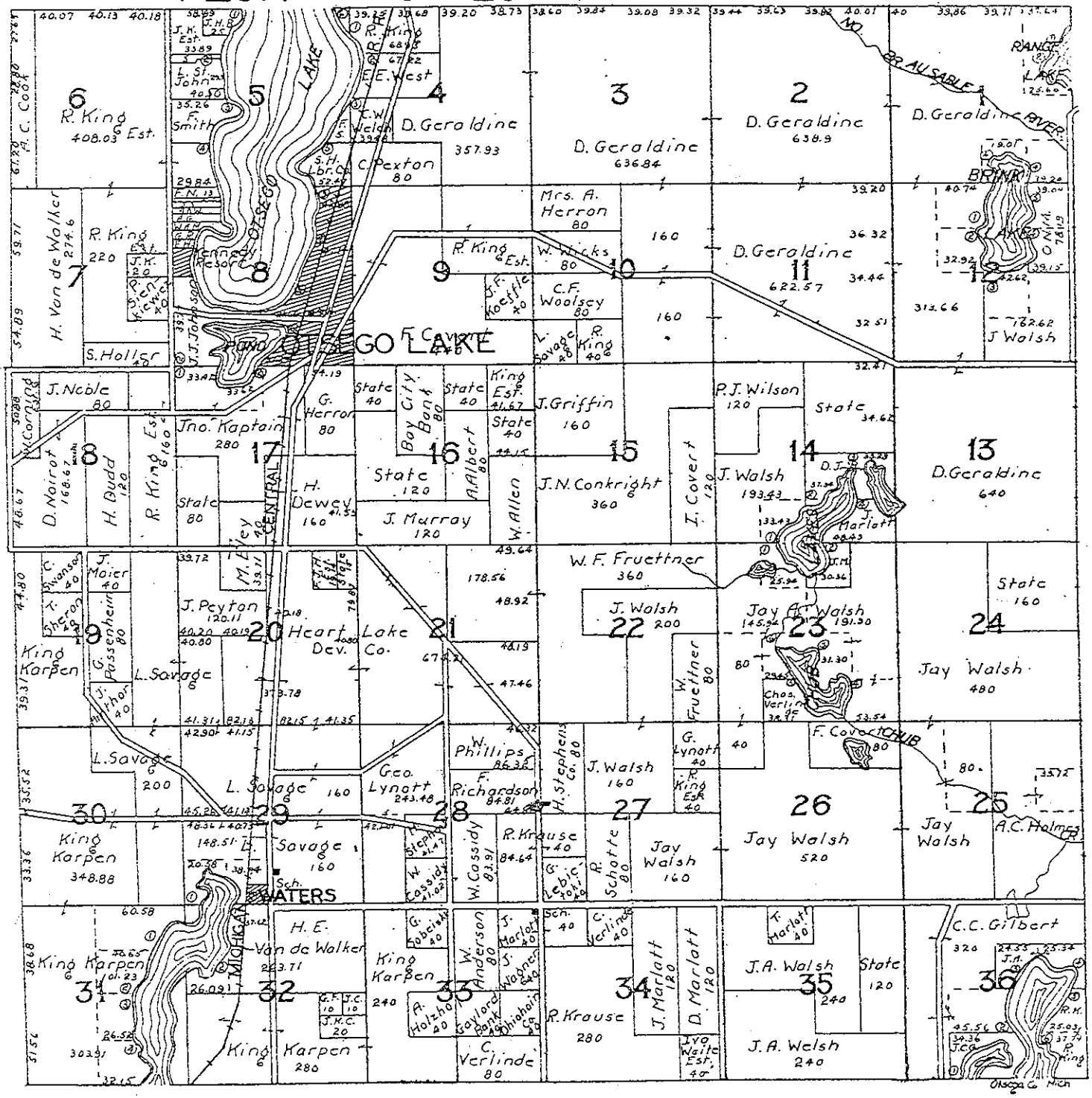
In 1868 – 1 vote saved President Johnson from impeachment;

In 1876 – 1 vote gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States;

In 1941 – 1 vote saved Selective Service---just weeks before Pearl Harbor was attached.

(From the Keystone—April, 1988)

T. 29N. OTSEGO LAKE R. 3W.



LAND OWNERS OF OTSEGO COUNTY, MICHIGAN, C. 1930
OTSEGO LAKE TOWNSHIP T29N, R3W

Section1 – D. Geraldine, 640 acres
Section 2 –D. Geraldine , 638.9 acres
Section 3 –D. Geraldine , 636.84 acres
Section 4 – D. Geraldine, 357.93 acres
R. King, 68.48 acres
E. E. West 67.22 acres
T. W. Welch, 33.48 acres
C. Pexton, 80 acres
S. H. Lbr. Co., 57.47 acres
Section 5 – J. H. Estate, 58.89 acres
L. St. John, 40 acres
F. Smith, 35.26 acres
Section 6 – R. King, 437.87 acres
B. C. Cook, 25.30 acres
Section 7 – H. Van de Walker 274.6 acres
R. King, 220 acres
J. K., 20 acres
P, Sienkiewicz, 40 acres
S. Holler, 40 acres
Section 8 – J. J. Johnson, 37.7 acres
Section 9 – F. Covert , 440 acres
R. King Estate, 160 acres
J. F. Koeffle, 40 acres
Section 10 – Mrs. A. Herron, 80 acres
W. Wicks, 80 acres
L. Savage, 40 acres
R. King, 40 acres
D. Geraldine, 320 acres
Section 11 – D. Geraldine, 622.57 acres
Section 12 – D. Geraldine, 312.66 acres
O.N,M,m 78.19 acres
J. Walsh, 162.62 acres
Section 13 – D. Geraldine, 640 acres
Section 14 – State of Michigan 34.62 acres
P. J. Wilson, 120 acres
J. Walsh, 193.43 acres
D. J., 37.34 acres
J. Marlott, 48.43 acres
Section 15 – J. Griffin, 160 acres
J. N. Conkright, 360 acres
I. Covert, 120 acres
Section 16 – King Estate, 41.67 acres
State of Michigan 240 acres
Bay City Bank, 80 acres
A. Albert, 80 acres
W. Allen, 80 acres
J. Murray, 120 acres
Section 17 – G. Herron, 80 acres
Jno. Kaptain, 280 acres
State of Michigan, 80 acres
M. Eley, 40 acres
H. Dewey, 160 acres

Section 18 – R. King Est., 160 acres
H. Budd, 120 acres
D. Noirot, 168.67 acres
W. Corning Estate, 50.88 acres
J. Noble, 80 acres
Section 19 – C. Swanson, 40 acres
T. Sheron, 40 acres
J. Moier, 40 acres
King Karpen, 85.11 acres
G. Passenheim, 80 acres
J Arnthor, 40 acres
L. Savage, 200 acres
Section 20 - Heart Lake Dev. Co., 82.13 acres
J. Peyton, 120.11 acres
M. Eley, 39.71 acres
J. H., 18.16 acres
State of Michigan, 15 acres
Section 21 –Heart Lake Dev. Co., 640 acres
Section 22 – W. F. Fruettner, 440 acres
J. Walsh, 200 acres
Section 23 –J.M., 30.36 acres
Chas. Verlinde, 38.91 acres
Jay A. Walsh, 570.73 acres
Section 24 – State of Michigan, 160 acres
Jay Walsh, 480 acres
Section 25 – A. C. Holmes , 320 acres
Jay Walsh, 320 acres
Section 26 – F. Covert, 80 acres
Jay Walsh, 560 acres
Section 27 – G. Lynott, 40 acres
R. King Estate, 40 acres
Jay Walsh, 320 acres
H. Stephens Co., 80 acres
R. Schotte, 80 acres
R. Krause, 40 acres
B. Lebietoki, 40 acres
Section 28 – W. Phillips, 86.38 acres
F. Richardson, 84.81 acres
Geo. Lynott, 243.43 acres
H. Stephens, 41.47 acres
W. Cassidy, 124.93 acres
R. Krause, 84.64 acres
Section 29 – L. Savage, 640 acres
Section 30 – L. Savage, 200 acres
King Karpen, 348.88 acres
Section 31 – King Karpen, 640 acres
Section 32 – H. E. Van de Walker, 263.71 acres
King Karpen, 280 acres
G. F., 10 acres
J.C., 10 acres
J.H.C., 20 acres
Section 33 – King Karper, 240 acres
G. Sobieski, 40 acres
A . Holzha, 40 acres
W. Anderson, 80 acres
J.Mmarlott, 40 acres

J. Wagner, 40 acres
Ohiohoin Co., 40 acres
C. Verlinde, 80 acres
Gaylord Bank, 40 acres
Section 34 – R. Krause, 280 acres
J. Marlott, 160 acres
C. Verlinde, 40 acres
D. Marlott, 120 acres
Ivo Waite Estate, 40 acres
Section 35 – T. Marlott, 40 acres
J. A. Walsh, 480 acres
State of Michigan, 120 acres
Section 36 – C. C. Gilbert, 320 acres
J.C.G., 34.36 acres
J.A., 49.89 acres
R. King, 62.77 acres

This concludes Otsego Lake Township
Other townships to be continued in next issue)

GAYLORD FACT FINDERS
Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1899 • Gaylord, MI 49735

Otsego County Library