

Blanche K. Griffin



Marquette County Historical Society.

Date March 16, 1921

Biographical Record of B. A. Wright

Will you kindly answer the following questions, in order that for future reference, there may be a permanent record of yourself to file among the papers of the Marquette County Historical Society. Additional facts which you desire to add, may be written on the back of this sheet. Return this to L. A. Chase, Secretary of the Marquette County Historical Society, Marquette, Michigan.

What is your full name? Benjamin Warren Wright

When were you born? July 14, 1838

Where were you born? North Plympton Mass.

What was your father's name? Josiah Wright

What was your mother's name? Sarah Sherman Wright

Is either of your parents still living? No Where? _____

When were you married? Oct 5, 1871 Where? Harvey Wick
To Lillian Francis Moore

To whom were you married? Second marriage Sept 19, 1893 to Bessie Evans

Is your wife ~~or husband~~ still living? Both dead

When did you come to Marquette County? Spent winter 1855 & 56 at Antouagou. Came to Marquette May 1856 to reside.

From what place did you come here? Springfield Mass.

By what means and what route did you get here? Rail via Albany, Buffalo & Detroit thence by steamer.

In what work have you engaged, since coming here? Till 1866 in office as clerk and paymaster 1867 to 1882 in mercantile business. Succeeded as County Treasurer and deputy
(State name of employer or company for whom you have worked) _____

Paul & Stearns Coal Co - Chas. J. Harvey and Marquette County.

Where are you now living? (Give Post Office address) 329 East Prospect St. Marquette Mich

The following information is desired:

Your Children:

All survive.

NAME

Present age or age
at death.

Residence.

Warren M. Wright

40

Cleveland Ohio

Sarah L. Bilkey

48

Iskensburg Mich

Edith M. Wright

45

Marquette Mich

Bertha Green

44

Los Angeles Calif.

Kerben B. Wright

42

Superior Arizona

Morgan K. Wright

38

Virginia Minn

Katharine K. Wright

33

Detroit Mich

From what country did you or your ancestors come to the United States?

England

We are of Puritan descent and "Mayflower" ancestry. Related to John Alden and Capt. Miles Standish

Any facts or anecdotes relative to the history of Marquette County, Michigan, may be added here or on the reverse side of the sheet.

When the subject of this sketch came to Marquette the population was only about 600. All merchandise and supplies for several years had to be brought into the region by steamers or sail vessels. Not many left the region in the winter as the journey was made on snow shoes through the forest. Marquette County settlers were superior to the early settlers of most of the borders. Professional men of all classes possessed superior mentality and moral sense. The managers of the business affairs of the region were capable conscientious men. In the fall merchants provided ~~supplies~~ for a six months business. During the winter not much fresh meat could be obtained and salted meats, fish and canned goods were the main stay. Notwithstanding the winter isolation most of the residents were contented and happy. They were in a way compelled to cultivate the community spirit and exercise the "get together" plan. Lectures, amateur entertainments, dancing and

parties and surprise parties were frequent. Sleighing
and snow shoeing were indulged in by the young.
Visits to the sugar camp popular. The few Indians to be
seen were friendly and peaceable. Church services were
regularly ~~held~~ conducted by the Catholic & Protestant Clergy.
In the summer season the presence of tourists enhanced
Marquette and fine fishing, hunting, ^{and} boating furnished
enjoyable and healthful recreation.

In after years the advent of railroad communication
the telegraph and so forth changed ~~changed~~
conditions so that there was more frequent interchange
with people from other parts of the State.