



# Marquette County Historical Society

Date October 15, 1923

Indexed

Biographical Record of Mr. Joseph Bashaw

*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? Joseph Bashaw

When were you born? March 28, 1861

Where were you born? Ausable Forks, Essex County, New York

What was your father's name? Frederick Bashaw

What was your mother's name? Celista La Mory

Is either of your parents still living? No Where? \_\_\_\_\_

When were you married? May 31, 1899 Where? Escanaba, Michigan

To whom were you married? Anna A. Geiger

Is your wife or husband still living? Yes

When did you come to Marquette County? December, 1864

From what place did you come here? Ausable Forks, Essex County, New York

By what means and what route did you get here? By rail and stage to Detroit, from Detroit to Marquette by boat.

In what work have you engaged, since coming here? Teamster, painter and paper hanger.

(State name of employer or company for whom you have worked) Different jobs as a teamster.

Worked for a man by the name of Dunkley, as a painter.

Where are you now living? (Give Post Office address) 127 W. Prospect St. Marquette, Michigan

**The following information is desired:**

Your Children: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME

Present age or age  
at death.

Residence

Mrs. Mabel Couture ..... 23 ..... Marquette, Michigan

Francis Bashaw ..... At death, 17 ..... \_\_\_\_\_

Mrs. Minnie Hoff ..... 20 ..... Marquette, Michigan

Armond Bashaw ..... 16 ..... Marquette, Michigan

From what country did you or your ancestors come to the United States? Mr. Bashaw's mother was  
born in England and his father at Ausable Forks, New York

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

Mr. Joseph Bashaw was born in Ausable Forks, New York and when four years old migrated to Marquette with his parents. They came by rail and stage as far as Detroit and from that place to Marquette by boat. The boat that they came on was an old side-wheeler. They arrived in Marquette in the month of December. In those days the boats didn't stop running until the lakes were completely frozen over. It took about twenty days to complete the trip from New York.

Marquette was not a very large place when Mr. Bashaw first came here. Michigan street was the last street on the north side and Washington street extended as far as fifth street. In the early days

there were only two butcher shops in town. One of these was owned by a man by the name of Pendill. He also owned a slaughter house located near where the Palestra now stands. There being very little farming in those days, cattle were brought in on sailing vessels and later by rail. A great deal of trouble was experienced in getting in provisions for the populace and for the horses. If the boats were late in the spring a shortage of provisions would occur.

In the early days there used to be as high as fifteen sailing vessels in the harbor at one time. This was due to the fact that it took so long for loading and unloading. It took three or four days to load one ship. The ore was hauled from Negaunee by teams on a plank road or tramway. The method of unloading coal vessels was very slow. An empty steel oil barrel was used a hoist-bucket. This was lowered into the ship and filled. It was then hoisted to the deck of the vessel, through the use of horses, and loaded into wheelbarrows, which were in turn wheeled to the dock and emptied.

The only means of heating the offices in the early days was through the use of coal stoves. Each office would have a coal-ben located in the hall or in some cases right in the office proper. Mr. Bashaw recalls that as a boy he used to earn twenty-five cents a ton for carrying the coal from the street to the bens in the different offices. Mr. Bashaw also recalls that many places of business have changed locations. The South Shore railroad shops were at one time located on the ground where the passenger depot now stands. The opera house was up over Flanagan's livery stable. There were iron furnaces located at Forestville, Chocolay and the Carp furnace near where the State's Prison now is. Mr. Bashaw, when a young man cut cord wood, at forty-five cents a cord, for the Carp furnace.