MARQUETTE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Marquette County Historical Society

Date Nov. 3. 1921.

Biographical Record of Mrs Lucie La Fortune

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? Mrs Lucie La Fortune

When were you born? June 1844.

Where were you born? Ausable Forks. New York

What was your father's name? Joseph L. Plant

What was your mother's name? Longtine Katherine La Plant

Is either of your parents still living? No Where?

When were you married? Feb 1863 Where? Marquette, Mich.

To whom were you married? James La Fortune

Is your wife or husband still living? No

When did you come to Marquette County? 1854

From what place did you come here? Ausable Forks. New York

By what means and what route did you get here? By Boat.

In what work have you engaged, since coming here?

(State name of employer or company for whom you have worked)

Where are you now living? (Give Post Office address) 331 W. Bluff St. Marquette Mich.

The following information is desired:

Your Children: .....

NAME	Present age or age at death.	Residence
James La Fortune	54	Marquette, Mich.
Edwin La Fortune	50	Marquette, Mich.
Jennie La Fortune	48	Marquette, Mich
Clifford La Fortune	46	Marquette, Mich
Albert La Fortune	44	Marquette, Mich.

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

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

engaged in at New York was - a livery business and when they came to Marquette, they brought two horses with them on the boat. In Marquette, they did real estate business.

The cemetery was located on a large hill and the funerals were taken from the home to the Church and to the cemetery on foot, the casket being carried all the way. A niece of Mrs. La Fortune was buried in this manner.

The means of travel to Negaunee and Ishpeming was a flat car drawn by horses.

The winter was a time for gaiety. There were many dances held in a large boarding-house on Baraga Ave.

Catherine Harrington

When Mrs. La Fortune came to Marquette in 1854,
there were only about twelve houses belonging to white people here. There were Indians scattered all over, especially near the lake shore. They were very quiet and did not molest the white people. Jack La Peke an Indian, used to board with Mrs. La Fortune's family at one time. He used to sing in the French Church. He was very fond of children and used to teach them the Indian language. Mrs. La Fortune still remembers a few Indian words and phrases.

There was but one small, general store, kept by Graveracts. The mail was brought by dogs drawing a sleigh. During the summer small boats, called propellors, would come often. During the winter, there were no boats and no supplies until Spring.

There was a cemetery at the corner of Washington and Fourth Streets. Everyone - Indians as well as white people were buried there, later, this cemetery was moved to where the Catholic Cathedral now stands, later still, the Protestants were moved to Park Cemetery and the Catholics to the old Catholic Cemetery south of this city. From here the Catholic Cemetery was moved several years later.

The first Catholic church was built at corner of Baraga Ave. and Fourth Street.

The first clergyman in Marquette was a Catholic priest by the name of Father Durock. He said his first mass at the home of Mrs. Longtine on Rock St. The first French priest was Father King from Canada. Fr. Durock soon established a school in the basement of the Catholic Church, Before this time there were no schools of any kind - the children played about the house all day. The business that Mrs. La Fortune's brothers were

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Mrs Lucie La Fortune, 331 W. Bluff St. Double Space, one of the old residents of this city, spent the first ten years of her life at Ausable Forks, New York. From Ausable Forks, the family came to Marquette by boat. At the time of their arrival there were about twelve houses belonging to white people here. There were Indians scattered all over, especially near the lake shore. They were very quiet and did not molest the white people. Jack La Peke an Indian, used to board with Mrs. La Fortune's family at one time. He used to sing in the choir at the French Catholic Church. He was very fond of children and used to teach them the Indian language. Mrs. La Fortune still remembers a few Indian words and phrases. There was but one small general store kept by Graveuds. The mail was brought by dogs drawing a sled. During the winter there were no boats and no ~~mu~~ supplies until spring. but in the summer, small boats called propellors would come often. ?

Mrs. La Fortune's brothers were engaged in a livery business at New York and when they came to Marquette, they brought two horses with them on the boat. In Marquette, they did real estate business. ?

The means of travel to Negaunee and Ishpeming

~~Mrs. Elizabeth Agnew was born February~~
was a flat car drawn by horses. This was before the daily stage.

The 1st clergyman in Marquette was a Catholic priest by the name of Fr. Durock. He said his 1st mass at the home of Mrs. Longtine on Rock St. The 1st pastor of the French Catholic Church, was Father King from Canada. Fr. Durock soon established a school in the basement of the Catholic Church. Before this time, there were no schools of any kind. The children played about the house all day, and as soon as they were old enough to work, they were kept busy about the house.

The 1st Catholic church was built at corner of Baraga Ave & Fourth Street where St. Peter's Cathedral now stands. There was a cemetery at the corner of Washington & Fourth Sts. Everyone, Indian as well as white people were buried there. Later this cemetery was moved to where St. Peter's cathedral now stands, and later still the Protestants were moved to Park Cemetery and the Catholics to the old Catholic Cemetery, south of this city. From here, the Catholic cemetery was moved to the present site of the Holy Cross Cemetery.

The cemetery was located on a large hill and the funerals were taken from the home to the church and to the cemetery on foot, the casket being carried by pall-bearers the entire distance. A niece of Mrs. La Fortune was buried in this manner.

The summer was a time of labor while the summer was a time for gaiety. There were many dances during the summer. They were held, usually in a large boarding house on Baraga Ave.

Catherine Harrington.