

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

SAMUEL BRIDGES' MILL East Lake, Foster City Area

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 12, Number 42 [Thursday, March 5, 1908], page 1, column 3

Building a Mill.

On the shore of East Lake, about one and a half miles from his home, Samuel Bridges, the well-known Dickinson county farmer and lumberman, is engaged in building a mill. The Press has been unable to secure the capacity of the mill, but it will be sufficiently large to handle Mr. Bridges' yearly cut of timber, which totals several millions of feet. Mr. Bridges owns a large tract of timber in the vicinity, sufficient to keep the mill in operation for many years.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 6 [Thursday, July 2, 1908], page 1, column 4

Bridges' Mill.

The mill recently erected by Samuel Bridges, on East Lake, near his farm, is now in operation. There are 1,500,000 feet of logs in the booms. This timber will be manufactured into railroad ties for the Chicago & North-Western. Mr. Bridges has a contract to cut 75,000 ties for the company this season. Sixteen men are employed at the mill.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 38 [Thursday, February 10, 1910], page 1, column 2

A Successful Farmer.

Sam Bridges, the well-known logger and farmer, was in the city last Tuesday and favored The Press with [a] call. Mr. Bridges has just concluded a deal with the Oliver Iron Mining company for the timber on four hundred acres of land adjoining his present holdings. He is operating in the timber only on a small scale this winter. At present he is working on a contract calling for the delivery of 35,000 ties to the Chicago & North-Western road. During the winter he has delivered 14,000, banking on a spur about four miles from the mill. The mill is well-stocked with cedar and Mr. Bridges expects to manufacture shingles almost exclusively during this summer. In the meantime he is constantly adding to the limits of his farm, and now has one of the largest and best in the peninsula. Included in his crops this season is an eighteen-acre field of wheat. Mr. Bridges has been very successful in growing wheat, the crop is large and the berry plump, and he has it manufactured into flour for his own use. Last season his grist was over sixty-five barrels.

GROSSMAN LUMBER COMPANY Tipler, Florence County, Wisconsin

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 29 [Thursday, December 2, 1920], page 5, columns 2-3

Revolved To Death

Jules Elsner, [sic] was killed instantly at the saw-mill [sic – sawmill] of the Grossman Lumber company at Tipler, Wis., when his clothing in some manner became entangled in the revolving shafting under the engine-room [sic – engine room] of the mill and he was drawn into a moving machinery [sic – machine]. Elsner was alone in that part of the mill at the time, so it is not definitely known just how he met his death. The

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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attention of the man on duty in the engine room proper was called to the low steam pressure and thinking that a steam valve was broken, investigated, to find that Elsner's mangled body had opened the valve as it spun around with the shafting. He had been employed in the mill since last April and was accustomed to working around the machanery [sic – machinery] in which he met his death. He was buried at Florence, his former home.

HARMON LUMBER COMPANY Foster City

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 36 [Thursday, January 26, 1911], page 1, column 5

Operating Two Camps.

The Harmon Lumber company, owner of a large manufacturing plant at Foster City, are [sic – is] employing about one hundred and fifty men in their logging operations in the northern part of the county this winter. Only two camps are operated. The input of timber this winter is not as large as usual, due to the fact that the company had 2,000,000 feet of logs in stock at [the] close of the logging season. However, it is expected to bank 6,000,000 feet of logs, 100,000 cedar posts and 5,000 ties. In addition to the foregoing the company will also cut 50,000 ties for the Chicago & North-Western road. The Harmon company employes [sic – employs] a steam log hauler with great success in its operations. This hauler has sufficient power to haul from fifteen to twenty sleigh loads of logs scaling form 30,000 to 40,000 feet at each trip. Two round trips are made daily from the camps to the mill and the hauler is doing the work of more than a hundred horses.

GEORGE HARTER SAWMILL Faithorn, Menominee County

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 23 [Thursday, October 27, 1904], page 5, column 5

FAITHORN JUNCTION FACTS.

Geo. Harter, the father of the town, has one of the finest farms in this vicinity. He has 2,000 acres of timber and farming lands with 280 acres under cultivation. He has twenty-six horses, ten milch cows, fifteen head of young cattle and forty hogs. This year he raised 225 tons of hay, 2,400 bushels of oats, 1,200 bushels of potatoes, 1,000 bushels of rutabagas, 200 bushels of carrots, 1,000 bushels of mangels, and 2,000 heads of cabbage. He also had an extensive garden, which supplied him with all the vegetables of the season. He has an orchard of 200 fruit trees and a large variety of small fruits, and, although the orchard is young, he picked over 100 bushels of choice apples this year. In addition to his farming interests, Mr. Harter owns the hotel, a store, and a saw-mill [sic – sawmill] and does quite an extensive logging business. Last season the mill turned out 800,000 feet of lumber and 4,000,000 shingles. He expects to increase the lumber cut this year to 1,500,000 feet and make the same number of shingles as lasts year. Mr. Harter also has a ceder [sic – cedar] yard one mile west of Faithorn on the Soo line, form which he sold \$3,000. [sic] worth of ties last year. He expects to handle about the same amount this season. His entire business last year was over \$65,000.

LAING LUMBER COMPANY Holmes Siding/Sagola

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 10 [Thursday, May 30, 1889], page 1, column 2

THE CITY.

DR. CAMERON worked his passage on the hand car [*sic – handcar*] to the Laing lumber camp last Sunday, when called to attend W.S. Laing. He and his companions covered the distance of 20 miles in one hour and a half.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 22 [Thursday, August 22, 1889], page 1, column 2

THE Laing Lumber Company started its machinery last Tuesday, and found everything to work satisfactorily. The mill will not be put in active operation for some weeks yet, only such lumber as the company needs and perhaps a few old lots to be sawed, but a few weeks hence will be started up and run for all it is worth.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 10 [Thursday, May 30, 1889], page 4, column 2

Personal and Social.

W.S. Laing was taken seriously ill with cholera morbus at his camp at the new lumber mill, last Sunday, and Dr. Cameron, of this city was summoned [*sic – summoned*] to attend him. We are glad to report that he has since recovered.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 27 [Thursday, September 26, 1889], page 4, columns 2-3

A Model Mill.

The Current has the following to say concerning the **Laing Lumber Co.**, in whose fortunes our hustling townsmen, **W.S. Laing** and **J.R. Wood**, are interested:

Friday of last week the writer visited the **new mill of the Laing Lumber Co.**, at what has been known as **Holmes' Siding**, 20 miles north of **Iron Mountain** on the line of the M. & N. R.R. The mill is located on the e 1/2 of the s.w. 1/4 of sec. 29, 43, 30, on the west side of the track, and about six miles east of the **Michigamme river**. It is situated on a beautiful knoll on the north forty of the 80-acres, and when completed will be second to none in point of convenience and facilities for economical handling of logs and the converting of them into the various descriptions of lumber. The boiler and engine house is a stone structure 30x40 feet in size containing a battery of three boilers and a powerful engine. The sawmill building proper is 35x140 feet in size and is claimed to be as well and strongly framed as any in the u.p. The machinery now in operation is one of Prescott's band saw mills of a capacity of from 45 to 50 thousand feet per day, and so arranged that a circular saw may be used when desired, an edger and butting saw. A ten-block shingle machine and a planer are also on the ground but not yet in operation, and a dry kiln will soon be added. About 700 feet of trestled tramway has been built and a spur track run on the west side of the tramway, from the north end of the siding to the mill, and the grading for another track on the east will soon be completed; this spur track is about 1,800 feet long. On the east side of the main line and almost opposite the mills [*sic – mill*] is a small creek with a number of swamps and small ponds to feed it, and this creek has been converted into a canal which passes under the railroad to carry the logs into the pond

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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and thus avoid the necessity for crossing the track with loads of logs. The pond which has been made by building a dam to hold the water of the creek, has now a capacity of about 300,000 feet and is full of logs, but later it will be so cleared out and the dam raised as to hold a half million. The logs[,] of which the company has already secured about thirty millions of feet, will be brought as far as the canal above mentioned on a tram road, of which about a mile and a half will be finished during the present month. **The present working force at the mill and the camp is about 75 men, but fully 100 will be employed during the winter, and it is the intention to run the mill night and day.** The working hours at present are from 6:30 to 11:30 and 12:30 to 5:30. **Ten teams of horses are used.** Nearly all of the north forty will be used for mill purposes, and much of it has already been cleared and cleaned up to prevent fires. The buildings now around the mill are only temporary ones and will be replaced by others on the townsite which we shall speak of later. Two large force pumps are kept in readiness in case of fire, one in the mill and another in a building adjoining, the latter having an independent boiler. A fine well has been sunk near the present eating and sleeping quarters and the water is carried in launders to the horse stables. At the time of our visit, **O. Burlingame, the county surveyor of Menominee county, was engaged in laying out a townsite on the south forty. Ten acres had been cleared up on a beautiful hardwood ridge, and it was the intention of the company to build a store, residence for the president of the company, residence for the sawyer, filer and others of the mill men and a mill boarding house before winter sets in, and to sell lots to those who may wish to invest.** The company, as nearly as we can learn, is composed as follows: **John O'Callaghan, president; P.**

Flanagan, vice-president; **W.S. Laing,** secretary; **J.R. Wood,** president of the 1st National Bank, of **Iron Mountain.** The company formerly did business at Big Wausaukee, Wis., and moved its base of operations to what will probably be known in future as "**Segola [sic – Sagola],**" last fall. Mr. O'Callaghan looks after the mill and yard. Senator Laing has undertaken to hustle a few logs out of the woods, build the town, sell the lumber and pay the bills, and the chances are that his best girl will not have much of his company this winter. The Norway contingent – his honor the judge – will probably take no active part in the business except to consult with Mr. Wood as to the declaration of dividends. We cannot close this rambling description without complimenting the cook. If last Friday's dinner was a fair sample of his ability he is a daisy kitchen mechanic.

The Menominee Range, Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, Volume XI, Number 31 [Thursday, October 24, 1889], page 5, column 4

THE village that is being formed by the **Laing Lumber Company,** at the point on the **M. & N.** heretofore known as **Holmes' Siding,** has been named **Sagola,** and will be provided with a post office as soon as Uncle Sam can get round [sic] to it.

MORGAN LUMBER & CEDAR **COMPANY** **Foster City**

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 44 [Thursday, March 24, 1910], page 1, column 2

Big Crop of Oats.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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R.W. Pierce, Jr., superintendent for the Morgan Lumber & Cedar company at Foster City, in speaking of the company's farming operations at that place, stated that last season a yield of 3,240 bushels of oats was harvested from 52 acres, making an average of nearly 63 bushels to the acre. This is the largest average that has been reported from any portion of Dickinson county and is undoubtedly a record for the peninsula.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 14, Number 44 [Thursday, March 24, 1910], page 1, column 2

Will Raise Cattle.

It is the intention of the Morgan Lumber & Cedar company to engage in the cattle business on quite an extensive scale in Breen township. Supt. Pierce is inclined to favor Holsteins. The company already has a fine herd of pure stock and will add to the number gradually. In the near future the company will build a creamery at Foster City.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 9 [Thursday, July 18, 1912], page 4, column 3

ENGINEER IS KILLED

ENGINE IN THE SAW-MILL AT FOSTER CITY GOES TO PIECES.

Claud Bishop, the Engineer, Buried in Ruins, Lived But a Few Moments; Others Escape.

Last Friday morning, Claud Bishop, the engineer of the saw-mill [sic – sawmill] of the Morgan Lumber & Cedar Co., lost his life when the engine broke, and Chas. Terrien, fireman, and P.J. Milligan and Olof Olson, who were in the engine-room [sic – engine room] at the time, narrowly escaped with their lives, unhurt. The same morning the engineer noticed that the engine did not work properly and on investigation discovered a crack in the engine-bed [sic – engine bed] beneath the journal of the crank shaft. It was while the engineer was showing the crack with a lighted candle to the others present in the room that the key in the journal above the crack came out. He pushed it back, but it came out again, and the eccentric rod struck the key, throwing the eccentric rod loose from [the] opposite end, causing the engine-bed [sic – engine bed] to give way with a loud crash. Those present sprang to safety through the door to the boiler-room [sic – boiler room] and through the window to the underpart [sic – under part] of the mill. The engineer sprang to the throttle wheel, to shut off the engine, when the fly wheel broke in several pieces striking the walls of the engine-room [sic – engine room] and burying Bishop under a mass of brick and pieces of iron. The fireman jumped for the top of the boilers to shut off [sic – off] the steam in the pipe leading to the engine. Olof Olson was the first to return through the window, from which he had jumped, and found Bishop lying by the engine beneath the throttle covered with a mass of brick and splinters. Olson carried him out and others helped him to remove him to the office of Dr. Moll, where he expired about twenty minutes later without regaining consciousness. Funeral services were conducted last Monday by Rev. A.K. Scott, of the Baptist church of Iron Mountain, and interment was at the Breen township cemetery at Foster City. The Modern Woodmen, of which he was a member, marched to the cemetery.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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The funeral was the largest ever seen in Breen township. Mr. Bishop was a popular young man, aged thirty-four years, and was everybody's friends [sic – friend]. He is survived by a wife and six children.

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R.W. Pierce and Jos. LaPine, accompanied by J.M. Baker, of the Morgan Co., Oshkosh, visited in Gladstone and other points last Saturday and Sunday to purchase a new engine for the mill.

Harry Young returned to Foster City last Tuesday from Escanaba to finish shipping out the maple lumber to the I. Stephenson Co. at Wells.

NORTHERN SAWMILL COMPANY Sagola

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 11 [Thursday, July 29, 1920], page 1, column 4

CLUB-HOUSE AT SAGOLA.

Northern Sawmill Company Is Now Having the Plans Drafted.

While in the city recently, Charles A. Goodman, president of the Northern Sawmill company, instructed Fred E. Parmelee, the architect and superintendent, to forthwith prepare the plans and specifications for the erection of a club-house [sic – clubhouse] at Sagola. The club-house [sic – clubhouse] will be of pleasing design and a story and a half in height. On the foundations it will be thirty-eight feet wide and forty-six feet wide [sic – long]. It will occupy the site now occupied by the old saloon building. On the main floor there will be a restaurant, billiard room and a magnificent ball-room [sic – ballroom]. The keeper of the club-house

[sic – clubhouse] will reside on the second floor. The club-house [sic – clubhouse] will “fill a long felt want” at Sagola and will be greatly appreciated by the villagers. Since securing control of the mills at Sagola, the Sawyer-Goodman interests have made many improvements and have others in mind. It is understood that the manufacturing plant is to be further enlarged at an early date. The Northern company is now in full control of the townsite property. Last season two large boarding-houses [sic – boardinghouses] were erected and a number of new residences are included in the building program. The company owns large tracts of timber lands tributary to Sagola and this fact insures the steady operation of the plant for many years.

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Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 25, Number 23 [Thursday, October 21, 1920], page 1, column 6

SAGOLA CLUB-HOUSE.

Will Be Finest in All Respects in the Upper Peninsula.

Rapid progress is being made in the erection of the club-house [clubhouse] for the employes [sic – employees] of the [the] Northern Saw-mill [sic – Sawmill] company. Edson D. Parmelee is in charge of the erection. The club-house [clubhouse] will be the finest building of the kind in the upper peninsula and the estimate [sic – estimated] cost is \$50,000. The main building, containing the auditorium, will have a frontage of 38 feet and two stories high in front. The wing, which will house the lounging and reading room, game rooms, kitchen, etc., has a frontage of 37.6 feet and a depth of 116 feet. In the rear will

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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be located the power-house [sic – powerhouse]. The house will be lighted with electricity and heated with steam. The main auditorium will contain a large stage and equipment for moving pictures and other entertainments. The floor will be of hardwood and well suited for dancing purposes. The other conveniences include a bath-room [sic – bathroom], modern toilets, checking rooms and lunch room. The keeper of the house will have his apartments on the second floor. Later the company will build a modern bowling alley. The plans for the building were made by F.E. Parmelee and his son Gale, and should prove a model for other structures of this character.

OLESON'S MILL

Homestead, Florence County, Wisconsin

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 3 [Thursday, June 11, 1908], page 1, column 5

Hand Mangled.

Fred Hord, a young man twenty three years of age, was injured last Thursday while sawing shingles at Oleson's mill in Homestead, ten miles west of Iron Mountain. His left hand was caught in the shingle machine cutting off the index finger at the first joint and badly lacertaing [sic – lacerating] the others. He came to Iron Mountain and had the injured hand dressed and is stopping at his boarding house at 115 West Ludington street.

O'CALLAGHAN'S MILL

Norway

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume VII, Number 49

[Saturday, January 9, 1892], page 1, column 5

A Solid Institution.

In taking stock of **Norway's important industries** it will not do to lose sight of one which has held its own for the past 13 years. We refer to the **mill and factory of O'Callaghan Bros. & Co.** During the summer of 1878 the first saw mill was built on Sec. 6, 39-29, by the O'Callaghan Bros. who need no introduction from us, as, the five stalwart brothers and their patriarchal and no less stalwart father are known throughout the northern country. Since it was first built the mill has twice been destroyed by fire, only to rise from its ashes larger and better than before. During the year 1891, about four million feet of lumber has been cut by the mill. Much of this has been "bill stuff" and a large proportion has been car timber for railroad use and long timber for bridge building, the company making a speciality of these. The institution has also done, during all the years past, a large business in shingles, lath, moldings, sash and doors, and all other necessary materials for house building. The mill does not shut down in winter except for necessary repairs and additions, and is now running on "orders." The number of men employed at the present time is sixty and about fifteen teams are at work getting in logs. About 3,000,000 will be put in this winter, and during the summer logs are cut and hauled as needed to fill special orders. The writer is not much of a mill man but he has heard those competent to judge say that, this plant is one of the best equipped little mills in the state. **John O'Callaghan**[,] who at first had charge of the industry[,] is now part owner and manager of the property of the **Sagola Lumber Co.**, north of Iron Mountain. **George**, who was also connected with the management, now

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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spends the major portion of his time in pine and real estate deals and probably has as comfortable a bank account as any one in the city. For the past four or five years **James**, or rather, "**Jim**" **O'Callaghan** has been the moving spirit at the mill, with his nephew **John Monroe** as accountant, and the "old gentleman" O'Callaghan[,] who spends his time in looking after the store and mill supplies, and unruly boys. The mill and the little village which has grown up around it are pleasantly situated on the line of the **C. & N.W. Ry.**, about a half-mile from the business portion of the city. The proprietors have been always liberal in their dealings with the public, and many who could not otherwise have done so have been thus enabled to build themselves homes and pay for them in installments.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 44 [Thursday, March 21, 1907], page 1, columns 1-2

HE IS CALLED HOME

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN, WELL- KNOWN CITIZEN, DIES IN CHICAGO.

Had Been a Resident of the Penin- sula for Thirty-Eight Years – A Man of Sterling Worth.

No citizen in all of Dickinson county was more highly esteemed than [*sic – than*] **John O'Callaghan**, who died in a Chicago hospital at an early hour last Friday morning [*Friday, March 15, 1907*] – no citizen more widely known – no citizen had more friends – no citizen has contributed more to the general welfare of the county.

John O'Callaghan was sixty-one years of age and had been a resident of the upper peninsula for thirty-eight years. He was born in Buckingham, Canada, and when he first came to the United States, in 1869, he located at Escanaba, where he engaged in the lumber business with his **brother George** and **John K. Stack**. In 1872 he returned to Buckingham, Canada, where he was united in marriage to Miss **Nellie Mahoney**. Three children, all of whom died, were born as a result of this union, and the wife followed them home in 1875, while she was visiting relatives in her former home. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Escanaba.

In 1876 he came to the range to reside, locating at Norway, where he engaged in the lumber business with his **brother George** under the firm name of **O'Callaghan Brothers** and operated the saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] one mile west of the city until 1887, when he moved to Wausaukee, Wis., where he first became associated with **Patrick Flanagan**.

In 1882, on February 14th, at Green Bay, Mr. O'Callaghan was married to Miss **Mary McLain**. This union, like the first, was a most happy and sympathetic one, and was blessed with ten children. The second Mrs. O'Callaghan died at Sagola on October 11th, 1901. Four of the children are also with their parents in heaven. Those living are **Josephine, Elmer, Marie, John, Edward** and **Clarence**. He is survived by four brothers – **Charles**, of Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, and **George, James** and **Thomas**, of Norway, and two sisters, Mrs. **Mary Monroe**, of Iron Mountain, and Mrs. **Bridget Mahoney**, of Buckingham, Canada.

In 1886, Mr. O'Callaghan entered into a partnership with **Patrick Flanagan** in the operation of a saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] at Wausaukee, Wis. In 1887 **James H. Gee** affiliated with the firm and the **North Wisconsin Lumber company** was

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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organized with Mr. O'Callaghan as president. In 1888, **William S. Laing** bought the McGee [sic – Gee] interest in the company and the saw-mill [sic – sawmill] was moved to Sagola. On December 30th of that year the name of the company was changed to the **Laing Lumber company**. The following year Mr. Laing sold his interest in the company to **John R. Wood** and Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan a part of their holdings to **John Perkins**, of Norway. In 1890, Messrs. Wood and Perkins sold their interests to Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan. On June 11th, 1891, a half interest of the business was sold to Messrs. **D. Wittenberg, Sr., D. Wittenberg, Jr., J.H. Wittenberg** and **J.F. Trotman**, of Cedarberg, Wis., and the name of the company was changed to the **Sagola Lumber company**. In 1897 Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan purchased the interests of the Wittenberg family, and on December 1st, 1899, sold a half interest to the late **Thomas Hughes** and **J.M. Attley**, of Chicago. In September, 1905, Mr. O'Callaghan sold his interest to Mr. Flanagan, and retired to private life. Mr. O'Callaghan was president of all the companies mentioned above.

In addition to his business duties, Mr. O'Callaghan found time to serve the people in various capacities. For a number of years he was a member of the county board and at the time of his death was a county road commissioner.

Soon after retirement from the lumber business Mr. O'Callaghan purchased a considerable tract of land near **Crescent City, Florida**, for a winter home, and it was while engaged in superintending the improvement of this property that he contracted a malarial fever that was primarily the cause of his death. He was taken sick in the south and was confined to his home at **Sagola** nearly all summer. Last fall the family removed to **Iron**

Mountain. Mr. O'Callaghan, prior to placing himself under the care of **Dr. Senn**, of Chicago, spent some time in a sanitarium at Milwaukee. At times exceedingly encouraging reports were received of his condition. He was hopeful and courageous, and only a few hours before his death letters were received from him in which he anticipated an early return to Iron Mountain.

Mr. O'Callaghan will be sorely missed by the people of Dickinson county and he will be sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends. He was of an optimistic nature; there was no phase of life that did not show its bright side in his opinion; his advice was sought by his fellowmen and his advice was invariably good. He was fatherly in his dealings with the younger element and he was interested in their prosperity and contributed thereto. This world was made better by John O'Callaghan and he will be welcomed by the heavenly hosts. He was a man always, a true friend and a model husband and father. He has gone to his reward. The afflicted relatives are assured that they have the heartfelt sympathy of a wide circle of friends.

The remains were received here from Chicago last Saturday morning and the funeral was held from St. Mary's church last Monday morning. The attendance was very large, many friends coming from neighborhood towns. The services were conducted by **Rev. N.H. Nobsch**, assisted by **Rev. W.H. Joisten**, of Norway.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 22 [Saturday, May 28, 1881], page 3, column 3

WE regret to record the tidings of the burning of **John O'Callaghan's** saw mill near Norway, on Wednesday of last week. The news arrived to us too late for publication last week. The origin of the fire as stated to us is that a spark alighted in

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

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the saw dust and before it was noticed, had attained such headway, that it was impossible to extinguish it. The loss is estimated at about \$6,000. It is a serious loss, coming as it does in the busy season of the year. But John has energy and resources sufficient to rebuilt it, in better style than it was before.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 35 [Saturday, August 27, 1881], page 3, column 4

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN, the biggest lumberman on the range, toned up our town with his presence, about the center of the week. He has built on the site of his old mill an excellent new saw mill, which has just gone into operation. May abundant success attend him, is the wish of the MINING NEWS.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Marinette County, Wisconsin, Volume I, Number 37 [Saturday, September 10, 1881], page 3, column 3

JOHN O'CALLAGHAN's [sic – O'Callaghan] new sawmill, situated on the site of the one burned down last June, is a model of solidity and convenience. It is 30x120 feet on the ground, with a boiler house 20x40. A planer with planing room will be attached on the west side, as soon as possible. The capacity of the mill will be 30,000 a day, of twelve hours. The machinery was built in Oshkosh and is durable and substantial. One 52 inch Diston's circular, one edging and one butting-off saw are used. A sawdust conveyor and feeder conveys the sawdust to the fires. The inside of the roof of the boiler house is lined with sheet iron, which will be a great protection against fire. The mill is also supplied with a steam pump and 300 feet of rubber hose. In addition to

these precautions a number of barrels, kept constantly full of water, will be placed on the roof, and a stock of buckets will be kept close at hand for use in an emergency. The outside of the roof is thickly covered with a coat of lime and salt, so that there can be no possible danger from sparks. The mill started up on Monday, and will be kept humming right along. A large stock of logs are [sic – is] in the yard and more from the adjacent timber are being added all the time. Mr. O'Callaghan [sic – O'Callaghan] makes a specialty of sawing long timber for bridges and similar structures. The delay occasioned by the burning up of his former mill interfered seriously with his contracts, but he will, with this superior mill, soon have an opportunity of making up his losses.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 35 [Saturday, September 1, 1883], page 1, column 6

FIRE AT NORWAY.

On Wednesday morning at about 2 o'clock a fire broke out at **John O'Callaghan's Opera House**, at the foot of Main Street, which had just been fitted up, and opened as a roller skating rink. The blaze spread unimpeded to adjoining buildings and consumed in short order William Dickie's livery, Lieverthal's clothing store, and the old Nicholson drug store, which contained some stock. The loss is estimated at \$25,000, with small insurance. The origin of the fire is shrouded in mystery.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 2 [Thursday, June 2, 1910], page 1, column 2

Burglars at Sturgeon.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Burglars broke into the office of The O.C. Lumber Co. at Sturgeon Mill last Tuesday night and blew open the safe. They secured \$54.69 in cash. Entrance to the building was made through the basement window. Sheriff Robbins and Deputy Eslick went down yesterday to investigate the case and latter [sic – later] arrested two tramps between Sturgeon Mill and Waucedah. They also telephoned to other towns and one man was held at Faithorn. Sheriff Robbins has gone after this man to-day [sic – today].

PARKINSON CEDAR COMPANY Hardwood

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 3, Number 11 [Thursday, August 4, 1898], page 1, column 3

THE PARKINSON CEDAR CO.

New Dickinson Co. Corporation.

The Parkinson Cedar company is the title of a new Dickinson county corporation, which will be incorporated. The members of the company are M.M. Parkinson, of Madison, John Parkinson, of Chicago, John Lee, of Madison, and Joseph E. Reinger, of Hardwood. The officers are as follows: President, M.M. Parkinson; vice-president and manager, Joseph E. Reinger; secretary, John Lee; treasurer, John Parkinson. The company is organized for the purpose of manufacturing and dealing in cedar shingles, ties, posts and poles and buying and selling of cedar and pine lands. The company has acquired by purchase the large shingle mill of the Monona Cedar company at Hardwood, Breen township, and will continue to operate it. This mill is one of the best in the upper peninsula. It is

a new mill having been in operation since the 17th of last January, and since that time has not had to shut down once for repairs – a remarkable record for a new plant. Since commencing operations about 18,000,000 shingles have been manufactured, or at the rate of 4,000,000 shingles per month. The new company will deal largely in cedar lands and will also purchase all timber that jobbers may offer. During the past week deals were concluded with John M. Longyear, of Marquette, and J.F. Carey, the Escanaba attorney, for over 1,000 acres of cedar lands in the vicinity of the mill, and the same will be logged during the coming winter. J.E. Reinger, the vice-president and manager[,] is a bright, hustling young business man [sic – businessman] with an army of friends. He has had a thorough education in the cedar and pine business and under his guidance the company is assured a prosperous career. Mr. R. and his company will prove valuable additions to the business interests of Dickinson county.

PARMENTER'S MILL Sturgeon

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume VII, Number 36 [Saturday, October 10, 1891], page 1, columns 1-3

CURRENT NOTES.

–E.L. Parmenter, Jr., was up from the Sturgeon, Tuesday. At present his men are putting in a dam at the mill site which is about sixteen feet high. As soon as the work on the dam is completed the workmen will be put to work on the mill. The site is between the new road and the Sturgeon railway bridge, and a few hundred yards from the C. & N.W. track, from which a spur track is run to the site of the mill. A boarding house and other buildings have already been erected.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

PORTER LUMBER COMPANY

SAWMILL

West of Channing

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 13, Number 47 [Thursday, April 15, 1909], page 1, column 4

Saw-Mill Fire.

The mill of the Porter Lumber company, west of Channing on the St. Paul road, was destroyed by fire last Thursday night. The fire started in the boiler-room and was discovered about midnight. The mill was entirely destroyed, together with three carloads of lumber standing on the railroad track. The loss will reach about \$20,000 and there was no insurance.

SAGOLA LUMBER COMPANY

SAWMILL

Sagola

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 11, Number 44 [Thursday, March 21, 1907], page 1, columns 1-2

HE IS CALLED HOME

—————
**JOHN O'CALLAGHAN, WELL-
KNOWN CITIZEN, DIES IN
CHICAGO.**
—————

**Had Been a Resident of the Penin-
sula for Thirty-Eight Years –
A Man of Sterling Worth.**

No citizen in all of Dickinson county was more highly esteemed than [*sic – than*] **John O'Callaghan**, who died in a Chicago hospital at an early hour last Friday morning [*Friday, March 15, 1907*] – no citizen more widely known – no citizen had more friends – no citizen has contributed more to the general welfare of the county.

John O'Callaghan was sixty-one years of age and had been a resident of the upper peninsula for thirty-eight years. He was born in Buckingham, Canada, and when he first came to the United States, in 1869, he located at Escanaba, where he engaged in the lumber business with his **brother George** and **John K. Stack**. In 1872 he returned to Buckingham, Canada, where he was united in marriage to Miss **Nellie Mahoney**. Three children, all of whom died, were born as a result of this union, and the wife followed them home in 1875, while she was visiting relatives in her former home. The remains were interred in the cemetery at Escanaba.

In 1876 he came to the range to reside, locating at Norway, where he engaged in the lumber business with his **brother George** under the firm name of **O'Callaghan Brothers** and operated the saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] one mile west of the city until 1887, when he moved to Wausaukee, Wis., where he first became associated with **Patrick Flanagan**.

In 1882, on February 14th, at Green Bay, Mr. O'Callaghan was married to Miss **Mary McLain**. This union, like the first, was a most happy and sympathetic one, and was blessed with ten children. The second Mrs. O'Callaghan died at Sagola on October 11th, 1901. Four of the children are also with their parents in heaven. Those living are **Josephine, Elmer, Marie, John, Edward** and **Clarence**. He is survived by four brothers – **Charles**, of Bonner's Ferry, Idaho, and **George, James** and **Thomas**, of Norway, and two sisters,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Mrs. **Mary Monroe**, of Iron Mountain, and Mrs. **Bridget Mahoney**, of Buckingham, Canada.

In 1886, Mr. O'Callaghan entered into a partnership with **Patrick Flanagan** in the operation of a saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] at Wausaukee, Wis. In 1887 **James H. Gee** affiliated with the firm and the **North Wisconsin Lumber company** was organized with Mr. O'Callaghan as president. In 1888, **William S. Laing** bought the McGee [*sic – Gee*] interest in the company and the saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] was moved to Sagola. On December 30th of that year the name of the company was changed to the **Laing Lumber company**. The following year Mr. Laing sold his interest in the company to **John R. Wood** and Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan a part of their holdings to **John Perkins**, of Norway. In 1890, Messrs. Wood and Perkins sold their interests to Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan. On June 11th, 1891, a half interest of the business was sold to Messrs. **D. Wittenberg, Sr., D. Wittenberg, Jr., J.H. Wittenberg** and **J.F. Trotman**, of Cedarberg, Wis., and the name of the company was changed to the **Sagola Lumber company**. In 1897 Messrs. O'Callaghan and Flanagan purchased the interests of the Wittenberg family, and on December 1st, 1899, sold a half interest to the late **Thomas Hughes** and **J.M. Attley**, of Chicago. In September, 1905, Mr. O'Callaghan sold his interest to Mr. Flanagan, and retired to private life. Mr. O'Callaghan was president of all the companies mentioned above.

In addition to his business duties, Mr. O'Callaghan found time to serve the people in various capacities. For a number of years he was a member of the county board and at the time of his death was a county road commissioner.

Soon after retirement from the lumber business Mr. O'Callaghan purchased a

considerable tract of land near **Crescent City, Florida**, for a winter home, and it was while engaged in superintending the improvement of this property that he contracted a malarial fever that was primarily the cause of his death. He was taken sick in the south and was confined to his home at **Sagola** nearly all summer. Last fall the family removed to **Iron Mountain**. Mr. O'Callaghan, prior to placing himself under the care of **Dr. Senn**, of Chicago, spent some time in a sanitarium at Milwaukee. At times exceedingly encouraging reports were received of his condition. He was hopeful and courageous, and only a few hours before his death letters were received from him in which he anticipated an early return to Iron Mountain.

Mr. O'Callaghan will be sorely missed by the people of Dickinson county and he will be sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends. He was of an optimistic nature; there was no phase of life that did not show its bright side in his opinion; his advice was sought by his fellowmen and his advice was invariably good. He was fatherly in his dealings with the younger element and he was interested in their prosperity and contributed thereto. This world was made better by John O'Callaghan and he will be welcomed by the heavenly hosts. He was a man always, a true friend and a model husband and father. He has gone to his reward. The afflicted relatives are assured that they have the heartfelt sympathy of a wide circle of friends.

The remains were received here from Chicago last Saturday morning and the funeral was held from St. Mary's church last Monday morning. The attendance was very large, many friends coming from neighborhood towns. The services were conducted by **Rev. N.H. Nosbisch**, assisted by **Rev. W.H. Joisten**, of Norway.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 5,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Number 6 [Thursday, June 28, 1900],
page 1, column 4

Moving a Mill.

A.F. McGillis, of Menominee, has secured the contract to tear down the big planing mill, which the Sagola Lumber company recently purchased from the Trout Creek Lumber company and remove the same to Sagola, where it will be rebuilt. The work is well under way [sic – underway].

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 5, Number 14 [Thursday, August 30, 1900], page 1, column 2

Nearing Completion.

The new planing mill of the Sagola Lumber company is nearing completion. The building, aside from the boiler-room[,] is 50x110 feet on the foundation, and when completed will give ample room for the machinery necessary for finishing the stock of lumber ready for the market. The equipment of the planing mill will consist of a two-inch double surfacer, the flooring machines, one molding machine, one band saw, one gang edger and one trimmer. The boiler room will be 40x60 feet and enclosed with iron. There will be a brick fire-wall [sic – firewall] between the planing mill and the boiler-room. The power consists of two boilers 60 inches by 16 feet and an engine 18x26 cylinder, equal to 150 horse power. When all completed this plant will be equal in every particular to any in this lumber district.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 5, Number 16 [Thursday, September 13, 1900], page 5, column 4

BRIEF CITY NEWSITES.

The new planing mill of the Sagola Lumber company is in operation.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 19 [Thursday, October 6, 1904], page 5, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

Thos. Hughes, of Chicago, secretary of the Sagola Lumber company, spent several days in town last week. Mr. Hughes thinks there is no place quite as good as Sagola and he expects to build a house here soon and make this his place of permanent residence.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 21 [sic] [Thursday, October 13, 1904], page 5, column 1

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The Sagola Lumber company is building a barn near the hotel for the accommodation of transient teams.

...

John F. Couillard has taken a contract to put in 1,000,000 feet of pine and cedar for the Sagola Lumber company. He started a crew of men at work last Monday.

The Sagola Lumber company has finished their logging operations at Trout Creek and moved their camps to Findley Junction. They will resume logging there about the first of November.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Number 22 [Thursday, October 20, 1904], page 5, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The average shipments of lumber from the Sagola Lumber company's yard is ten cars per day.

...

The log spur at the mill-pond [*sic* – *millpond*] is to be extended 1,000 feet this fall to the cedar and cordwood yard.

...

The Sagola Lumber company has commenced shipping cordwood to Chicago. They are loading three cars per day.

...

Dr. C.O. Seaberg, of Iron Mountain, was in town last Monday doing some veterinary work for the Sagola Lumber company and for Jos. Schleis.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 24 [Thursday, November 3, 1904], page 5, column 1

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The work of grading for the extension to the log track was commenced last Monday.

...

Chas. Lajoie, who has held the position of head sawyer at the mill for the past three years, has resigned his position and will move his family to Canada.

The saw-mill [*sic* – *sawmill*] shut down last Monday for general repairs. It will probably be two weeks before the repairs are completed and the mill [*is*] again in commission.

J.M. Atley, treasurer of the Sagola Lumber company, arrived from Chicago last

Tuesday morning to look over the stock of dry lumber now ready for market.

The township board held a meeting last Tuesday night and decided to open eighty rods of road through the Sagola Lumber company's field, from the Mansfield road to the railroad track, for the benefit of the cordwood jobbers who will haul wood to the track. The work of grading the road will be commenced at once.

The Sagola Lumber company has decided to enlarge the village plat and place some desirable residence lots on the market. The new addition will be just south of the present site, extending as far as the new township road. This move was suggested by a number of applications from prominent young men in the village who are contemplating matrimony and are only delaying the happy events because they cannot get houses to live in. The opportunity will be offered for the industrious young man to buy a lot and build a house for himself.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 25 [Thursday, November 10, 1904], page 5, column 5

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The extension of 700 feet to the log track is completed to the north end of the wood and pole yard and shipments of cordwood will now go forward promptly.

The Sagola Lumber company has let the water out of the pond and is now engaged in cleaning out the debris and repairing the steam pipes preparatory to maintain [*sic* – *maintaining*] an open pond during the winter to facilitate the handling of logs for the mill.

The Sagola Lumber company has platted an addition to the village and lots in the new site are now for sale at prices

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

ranging from \$50 upward. To any purchaser of lots who builds a residence a rebate of 20 per cent. will be given and the company will also make a differential price of lumber purchased from them for this purpose. Edward Bemis is now making plans and estimates for several cottages to be erected this fall on the new village site.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 26 [Thursday, November 17, 1904], page 2, column 4

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The shipments from the Sagola Lumber company's yard for the past week were thirty cars of lumber and fifteen cars of cordwood.

John Burns has charge of the logging camp at the mill for the Sagola Lumber company, and will put in 2,000,000, [sic] feet of logs this season.

The Sagola Lumber company has finished cleaning out the log pond, repaired the dam and will be ready to start the saw-mill [sic – sawmill] again next Monday.

The Sagola Lumber company, [sic] sold three forties of timber and farming land near Merryman Siding to J.J. Collins, postmaster at Granite Bluff, last Monday.

The Sagola Lumber company has installed air-blast grates in the fire-boxes [sic – fireboxes] of their boiler-room [sic – boiler room] for the purpose of burning green sawdust and hog grindings from the mill, thereby saving the slab-wood [sic – slab wood] for market.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 27 [Thursday, November 24, 1904], page 5, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The saw-mill [sic – sawmill] started up yesterday after being shut down for repairs since the 15th of October.

...
Village lots for sale in the new addition on easy terms. Inquire at the Sagola Lumber company's office.

...
The Sagola Lumber company started their camp at Findley Junction last week and is now receiving about six cars of logs per day from that point.

The cordwood and log jobbers are taking advantage of the fine weather, too, and are cutting and skidding timber ready for hauling as snow falls so as to make good roads.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 28 [Thursday, December 1, 1904], page 5, column 1

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

Albert Trigloff, section foreman, has a crew of twenty men building the new side track this week.

Thos. Hughes, of Chicago, secretary of the Sagola Lumber company, was in town last Tuesday and Wednesday.

...
The railroad company is building a spur 750 feet long opposite the depot to facilitate the loading of logs, poles and cordwood.

There is fairly good sleighing in this vicinity and the jobbers have commenced to haul cordwood to the track for shipment.

...
Mr. and Mrs. E.L. Graham were in Chicago last Monday and Tuesday selecting a stock of holiday goods for the Sagola Lumber company's store.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

The Sagola Lumber company sold two lots in the new addition to the village this week. The purchasers will erect dwellings on them in the spring.

...

Fred Urquhart, of Baraga, and Chas. Fruck, of L'Anse, have been engaged as head sawyer and band saw filer respectively at the Sagola Lumber company's mill. The commenced work last Monday.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 29 [Thursday, December 8, 1904], page 5, column 1

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin L. Graham returned last week Wednesday from Chicago, where they had been to select holiday goods for the Sagola Lumber company's store.

Edward Eiler, of Pittsburg, Pa., made his semi-annual visit to Sagola last Saturday, and selected a large stock of lumber to be shipped during the next six months.

H. Magley has started a logging camp three and one-half miles west of Sagola and will cut 500,000 feet of logs, which he has sold to the Sagola Lumber company.

The Sagola Lumber company's store, under the management of Edwin L. Graham, assisted by his able clerks, T.J. Dewish and P.D. McCole, presents a model appearance. The stock is carefully selected to suit the demands of the trade and the store is kept neat and orderly. No more complete stock of goods can be found in any country town in the upper peninsula. In addition to the large stock of staple goods, they have a large and choice selection of holiday goods, which is in [sic – on] display in an artistic manner to attract the attention of their customers looking for something suitable for Christmas presents. This store

is patronized not only by the people of Sagola and vicinity, but also by many residents of neighboring towns.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 30 [Thursday, December 15, 1904], page 9, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

Jacob Johnson leaves to-night [sic – tonight] for his old home at Muskegon. Mr. Johnson is lumber inspector for the Sagola Lumber company and is taking his annual vacation. He will be gone about four weeks. It is rumored that there is a prospect of his bringing home a bride.

...

Last Sunday night, as the passenger train arrived from the north, a runaway team crossed the track in front of the train and barely escaped being killed. The team was caught by two men employed in the lumber yard and taken care of. It was afterwards learned that the team belonged to Swan Peterson, of Foster City, and was being taken to his camp at Floodwood with several other teams, and became unmanageable and ran away.

As an industrial center Sagola is making rapid strides forward. Eight years ago it was a little saw-mill [sic – sawmill] town and all the logs for the mill came from Ontonagon county and the logging and milling was conducted on a small scale as compared with the present operations. The Sagola Lumber company is still logging to a considerable extent in Ontonagon county, but, as the time is drawing near that their large holdings of timber in that section will be exhausted, they are turning their attention to the large tracts of timber in the vicinity of Sagola, where logging operations re being extensively carried on this season. In addition to the logging, the cordwood

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

industry has recently attained preeminence [sic – preeminence] in this vicinity and today [sic – today] Sagola is one of the largest points for cordwood on the St. Paul road. The cedar business is also worthy of considerable note. The cedar-pole [sic – cedar pole] and post [sic – post] manufacture will be carried on to such an extent this winter that the St. Paul company found it necessary to build a new side-track [sic – sidetrack] 750 feet long to accommodate this particular industry and already the new siding is lined with skidways ready to deck the poles as soon as there is snow enough to commence hauling. There are now over twenty jobbers in cedar and cordwood in the vicinity of Sagola who will land their winter's cut along the various side tracks ready for shipment. Another feature may well be considered in the future of Sagola as an industrial center, and that is the farming industry, which, although now in its infancy in this vicinity, is sure to make rapid strides in the near future, as the lands from which the timber is now being cut, as well as the lands from which the timber will be cut for several years to come, show good rich soil and are well adapted to farming purposes. There is no doubt that, in a few years, the farming industry in this vicinity will attract wide attention and Sagola township will cut a prominent figure in the future of Dickinson county.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 31 [Thursday, December 22, 1904], page 11, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

The saw-mill [sic – sawmill] was shut down two days last week on account of a breakage on the engine.

There is good sleighing in this vicinity and the jobbers have commenced hauling logs and cordwood.

...

The Sagola Lumber company is shipping thirty cars daily of dry slabs, cut to 12 inches, to the Soo Fuel company in Chicago.

The residents of Sagola are prosperous, as is evidenced by the enormous sale of holiday goods at the Sagola Lumber company's store.

...

This is the dull season for lumber shipments and orders are coming in slowly. Lumbermen are taking advantage of the opportunity, making their inventories, and preparing estimates for next year.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 32 [Thursday, December 29, 1904], page 5, column 3

NEWS GOSSIP FROM SAGOLA.

...

The saw-mill [sic – sawmill] shut down last Tuesday on account of the severity of the storm.

...

The Sagola Lumber company presented each of their regular customers with a box of candy for Christmas. Over 1,200 pounds went to gladden the homes of their patrons.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 12, Number 40 [Thursday, February 27, 1908], page 1, column 3

LARGEST IN COUNTY

RELATIVE TO THE OPERATIONS OF THE SAGOLA LUMBER CO.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Among the Largest Operators in the Upper Peninsula – Logging in Randville District.

In summing up the annual production of lumber of the Sagola Lumber company's mill for the year 1907, we find it amounts to the following in round numbers: Ten million feet of lumber, including pine, hemlock, basswood[,] elm, maple and birch, 4,500,000 laths, 3,500,000 shingles, 8,000 ties, 10,000 cedar posts, 2,000 telegraph poles.

The estimate given for the year of 1908 is: Five million feet white pine, 1,500,000 feet Norway pine, 800,000 feet hemlock, 1,000,000 feet basswood, 500,000 feet elm, 1,500,000 feet maple and birch, 4,500,000 lath, 5,000,000 shingles, 2,500 ties, 30,000 posts, 1,500 telegraph poles.

In comparing the estimate for 1908 with the production for 1907, there is a decrease in the production of white pine lumber and an increase in the production of basswood, maple and birch. There is also a decided increase in the production of singles and cedar posts.

During the past year, the company has installed the necessary machinery for the manufacture of hardwood flooring and it is estimated that during the present year 500,000 feet of maple flooring will be manufactured and placed on the market.

In the woods and at the mill 165 men and twenty-eight teams are employed by the company, besides those employed by small jobbers and others, who sell their logs to the company.

The logging railway leading to the mill has been extended three miles during the past year and the facilities for handling logs is perfect.

The past few weeks has shown a decided increase in the orders for lumber.

In fact the market has a better outlook that it has shown for the past four months.

ABOUT RANDVILLE.

Randville is a busy station as far as shipments of logs are concerned. The billing for Carey's Spur, the Groveland Branch Spur, 221, 220, 219, 218, 217, and Granite Bluff is all done here. The shipments of logs and cordwood from the above spurs amount to about fifty cars per day and are distributed as follows: Ader & Gray Spurs, twelve cars; Sol Frazer Spur, 219, four cars; Hamilton & Merryman Spur, ten cars; John Wedine, Granite Bluff, two cars; A. Bjorkman, Granite Bluff, two cars; Robert Gerstun, five cars; Joseph Perron, two cars; Fred Gothe, one car from Carey's Spur, X. Prenevost, two cars from Spur 221, and from the Groveland branch Hamilton & Merryman are shipping two cars per day, Matt Johnson two cars, A. Bjorkman three cars, and Andrew Rian, two cars. During the month of January Hamilton & Merryman shipped two-hundred and sixty-one cars from Spur 217 and forty-one cars from the Groveland branch.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 17 [Thursday, September 15, 1910], page 1, column 1

A BIG MILL BURNS

SAGOLA LUMBER CO.'S SAW-MILL DESTROYED LAST SUNDAY.

**Loss Will Exceed \$40,000 With In-
surance of \$30,000; Plant to
be Rebuilt This Season.**

The Sagola Lumber company's saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] was totally destroyed by fire last Sunday night. The building was struck

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

by lightning about seven o'clock in the evening and caught fire in the cupola.

The fire was first discovered by the fireman, who immediately blew the fire whistle and then got out the hose and started the pump, but the building was so dry that the whole structure was enveloped within a few minutes.

The entire population of the town turned out to fight the fire, but nothing could be done towards saving any portion of the mill and the men then gave their attention to patrolling *[sic - patrolling]* the yard to prevent the fire from catching in the piles of lumber. Several times a small blaze started in various parts of the yard, but they were extinguished before any headway had been gained and the fire was kept confined to the mill.

The loss is estimated from \$40,000 to \$50,000 with \$30,000 insurance.

It is generally understood that the company will rebuild the mill on an improved plan and equip it with up-to-date machinery.

With their present timber holdings, the company has ten years's *[sic - years']* work on hand with another ten years in sight.

The company was first organized in 1888 under the name of the Laing Lumber company with John O'Callaghan, Wm. S. Laing and Patrick Flanagan as incorporators, with \$30,000 in capital stock equally distributed among the three stockholders.

John O'Callaghan was elected president, Patrick Flanagan vice-president and Wm. S. Laing secretary-treasurer.

Selecting a name for the corporation was left to the late Wm. S. Laing and a name for the town to Patrick Flanagan, who selected Sagola, after Sagola, Wis., which was Mr. Flanagan's former home and post-office *[sic - post office]*.

At the time the Laing Lumber company was organized a purchase of stumpage, estimated at 35,000,000 feet, was closed

form the Lake Superior Ship Canal & Iron Co., lying just east of the present town site, and a narrow gauge railroad was built to handle the logs to the mill.

During the latter part of the year of 1888, John R. Wood, of Iron Mountain, and Capt John Perkins, of Norway, purchased some stock in the company and became members of the board of directors.

The business of the company was conducted by John O'Callaghan and Wm. S. Laing for three years, after which Laing, Wood and Perkins sold their interests, representing one-half of the capital stock, to the Wittenbergs of Cedarburg, Wis., and the name of the company was changed to the Sagola Lumber company and the capital stock increased to \$100,000.

For six years afterwards, John O'Callaghan had charge of the logging end of the business and Richard Wittenberg, the commercial end.

In the fall of 1897, John O'Callaghan and Patrick Flanagan exchanged their interest in a logging railroad in Minnesota for the Wittenberg interest in the Sagola Lumber company and the following year sold a half interest in the company to Thos. Hughes and J.M. Attley, of the firm of Hughes & Attley, Chicago.

In 1905, Mr. Flanagan bought the O'Callaghan interest, and in March, 1907, Mr. Hughes died.

The present officers of the company are Patrick Flanagan, president; John J. Flanagan, vice-president; J.M. Attley, secretary-treasurer.

Since the building of the mill, twenty-two years ago this month, an average of 12,000,000 feet of lumber per year has been turned out and it is anticipated that with a new plant this amount will be increased.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Number 18 [Thursday, September 22, 1910], page 1, column 5

FIRE LOSS SETTLED.

The Sagola Lumber Co. Will Build a New Saw-Mill at Once.

Jay G. Carver and R.F. Medbury, of Detroit, Clark Munn, of Milwaukee, and W.S. Wright, of Marquette, adjusters representing the sixteen companies carrying insurance on the plant of the Sagola Lumber company, which was recently destroyed by fire, spent last Tuesday and yesterday in the city and at Sagola in consultation with Manager Thompson, of the Commercial Bank insurance agency, with which agency the insurance had been written.

A settlement between the Sagola company and the several insurance companies was soon arrived at. The mill was insured for \$30,000 and was paid in full with the exception of small salvage on contents in the boiler-house [*sic – boiler house*] amounting to about \$1,000. It is believed that a portion of the machinery in the boiler-house [*sic – boiler house*] can be utilized by the Sagola company in the proposed new mill.

Now that the insurance has been satisfactorily adjusted, the Sagola Lumber company will at once have the plans prepared for a new and modern mill. The work of clearing away the debris will commence at once. The new mill will be rushed to completion as rapidly as men can do the work and it is expected to have it under cover in record time.

The company has a large stock of logs in its yards, estimated at fully 3,000,000 feet, and this total will be added to during the early fall.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 21 [Thursday, October 13, 1910], page 1, column 6

Plans for Mill.

The Prescott Iron company has been engaged to furnish the plans for the new mill of the Sagola Lumber company and their architects are now at work. The building will be of the same dimensions as the one destroyed by fire, but additional machinery will be added to the plant.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 21 [Thursday, October 13, 1910], page 5, column 4

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP.

The Sagola Lumber Co. received the plans for the new saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] yesterday and the work of re-building [*sic – rebuilding*] the mill will be started soon. The new mill will be the same size as the old one, but will contain improved machinery, consisting of a band saw, re-saw and shingle and lath mill and it is expected that the mill will be in operation by February first.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 22 [Thursday, October 20, 1910], page 4, column 1

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP.

The Sagola Lumber Co. has started excavating for the foundations of the new saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*].

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 23 [Thursday, October 27, 1910], page 5, column 4

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP.

The concrete work for the new boiler-house at the mill of the Sagola Lumber company, [sic] was started last Monday and will be completed next week. Work on the main building is being held back pending the result of a deal now on for the purchase of a saw-mill [sic – sawmill] plant near Grand Marais, which, if the deal is closed, will be taken down and shipped to Sagola to replace the old mill. John J. Flanagan and C.F. Knisely went to Grand Marais last Monday to look the plant over.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 25 [Thursday, November 10, 1910], page 4, column 3

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP.

The work on the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] is progressing rapidly. The concrete work on the boiler-house [sic – boiler house] is completed and the foundation for the mill is well under way.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 27 [Thursday, November 24, 1910], page 7, column 4

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP.

J.M. Attley, of Chicago, secretary-treasurer of the Sagola Lumber Co., was in town last Friday and Saturday looking over

the re-construction [sic – reconstruction] of the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill].

...

The work on the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] is well under way. The boiler-house [sic – boiler house], built entirely of concrete, is completed and the first story of the mill, fourteen feet high, also of concrete, was finished on Monday. The frame work for the second story of the mill will be erected as soon as the concrete is sufficiently hardened to admit of the timbers being placed upon it.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 30 [Thursday, December 15, 1910], page 6, column 1

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

The Sagola Lumber Co. has finished sawing the timber for the mill and the crew, consisting of A.M. LaCourt, A. Kramer, Jos. Cambray, Prescott, Pringle and Oscar and Oliver Olson[,] returned from Witbeck last Sunday night. The timber has been received at the mill and the work of erecting the frame is now in progress. The machinery for the mill is being furnished by the Prescott, Co., of Menominee, and the first carload is expected to arrive next week. The company anticipates that the mill will be completed and machinery installed ready for operation by February 15th.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 32 [Thursday, December 29, 1910], page 5, column 3

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Wm. Arnold, one of the carpenters employed on the new mill, went to Oconto, Wis., last Saturday to ship up some blocks and tackle to be used in placing the new machinery.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 17, Number 9 [Thursday, July 18, 1912], page 5, column 1

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

The Sagola Lumber company has a crew of men cutting hay. It is estimated that the company will harvest over 250 tons this season.

...
The boiler and engine house at the Sagola Lumber company's planing mill caught fire at about five o'clock last Monday afternoon and burned to the ground. The entire force at the mill was called out and by hard work kept the fire from spreading to other portions of the planing mill. Just how the fire started is not known, but it is thought to have been caused by spontaneous combustion of dust which had accumulated in the boiler room. The extent of the loss has not yet been determined, but is estimated to be about \$5,000. This estimate may be reduced, [sic] when the boilers and engine can be tested, so as to determine to what extent they are damaged.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 36 [Thursday, January 26, 1911], page 3, column 4

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

John A. Couillard accidentally fell into a hole in the lower part of the new mill last Thursday and injured his right shoulder quite badly.

...
The work at the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] is progressing rapidly. Six carloads of machinery were received last week and the Sagola Lumber co. expect [sic – expects] to have the mill in operation by April first.

...
C.F. Knisely had a narrow escape from serious, if not fatal, injury last Friday. He was working in the lower part of the mill when some one [sic – someone] let a cant-hook [sic – cant hook] fall from the upper floor. It struck him on the side of the head inflicting a bad scalp wound. Had the cant-hook [sic – cant hook] struck him on top of the head he would have been instantly killed.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 37 [Thursday, February 2, 1911], page 3, column 4

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

A.M. La Court went to Witbeck last Sunday to estimate some timber for the Sagola Lumber Co.

...
The electric dynamo at the saw-mill [sic – sawmill] was set up yesterday and as soon as the wire connections can be made the town will again have electric lights.

The Sagola Lumber Co. has seven millwrights employed in placing the machinery in the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] and expect to double the force as soon as suitable men can be secured.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15,

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Number 43 [Thursday, March 16, 1911],
page 5, column 2

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

The whistle sounded at the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] last Tuesday night for the first time, just six months and three days since the old mill burned.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 15, Number 45 [Thursday, March 30, 1911], page 3, column 3

SAGOLA NEWS GOSSIP

The new mill was started last Tuesday and several logs were sawed as a trial of the machinery. Everything worked smoothly. It is expected that, in a few days, the mill will run regularly. It is claimed that 50,000 feet per day can be cut when everything is running smoothly.

STURGEON MILL/O'CALLAGHAN'S MILL Sturgeon Mill

The Current, Norway, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume VII, Number 36 [Saturday, October 10, 1891], page 1, columns 1-3

CURRENT NOTES.

—E.L. Parmenter, Jr., was up from the Sturgeon, Tuesday. At present his men are putting in a dam at the mill site which is about sixteen feet high. As soon as the work on the dam is completed the workmen will be put to work on the mill. The site is between the new road and the Sturgeon railway bridge, and a few hundred yards

from the C. & N.W. track, from which a spur track is run to the site of the mill. A boarding house and other buildings have already been erected.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 24 [Thursday, November 3, 1904], page 5, column 3

STURGEON MILL MENTION.

The shingle mill shut down last Saturday for the season.

The planing mill will run all winter, dressing the large stock of lumber on hand for winter shipment.

The O.C. Lumber company started a new camp last Monday on the Sturgeon river near Sammel [sic – Samuel] Bridges' farm. Thirty men will be employed.

The O.C. Lumber company is shipping three cars of lumber per day. They have just finished loading 10,000 ties for the Wisconsin & Michigan railroad.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 9, Number 30 [Thursday, December 15, 1904], page 9, column 2

STURGEON MILLS.

The lumber shipments from the yard for the past month averaged ten cars per week.

The O.C. Lumber company is building a loading dock, 200 feet long, on the Wisconsin & Michigan railroad.

The O.C. Lumber company has shipped 125 cars of cedar poles and posts this season and has about thirty cards more to ship. The most of the shipments were to points in Illinois, Iowa and Kansas.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

The O.C. Lumber company has two logging camps on the Sturgeon river, one located about six miles from the mill and the other about twelve miles. They expect to cut about 2,500,000 feet of logs, 10,000 poles and 40,000 posts. Nelson Valley, who is jobbing for the company, has a camp four miles south of the mill on the Wisconsin & Michigan railroad, and will cut 1,000,000 feet of logs and ship to the mill this winter.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 49 [Thursday, April 25, 1912], page 5, column 4

SAW-MILL BURNS.

O.C. Lumber Company Suffers Fire Loss of Over \$30,000.00.

The O.C. Lumber company's saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*], known as the Sturgeon mill, located on the Sturgeon river, two miles east of Vulcan, was destroyed by fire last Friday afternoon.

The entire plant, consisting of the saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] and planing-mill, with all the machinery was destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$30,000, but the plant was well insured. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is supposed to have started from a hot box on some of the machinery in the lower part of the mill. The fire was first discovered about four o'clock in the afternoon and soon the entire structure was a mass of flames and burned down in a very short time.

The company has about 2,000,000 feet of lumber in the yard and will build a new planing mill at once, at a cost of about \$3,000.

The planing-mill [*sic – planing mill*] will be built near the North-Western spur track, about 200 feet west of [*the*] old mill site, and will be operated by water-power [*sic –*

water power]. The water wheel will be installed in the flume at the dam and the power carried by rope transmission to the mill.

In regard to re-building [*sic – rebuilding*] the saw-mill [*sic – sawmill*] the matter is yet undecided, although this will be done, as the company has 3,000,000 feet of logs in the river and standing timber enough for ten years' cut.

Iron Mountain Press, Iron Mountain, Dickinson County, Michigan, Volume 16, Number 52 [Thursday, May 16, 1912], page 2, column 4

NORWAY NEWS NUGGETS

James O'Callaghan, of the O.C. Lumber company, reports that the work of building a new planing mill at the Sturgeon mill plant, [*sic*] to replace the one that recently burned, [*sic*] is well under way. The flume has been rebuilt, the water-wheel [*sic – waterwheel*] repaired and placed in position and some of the machinery for the planing mill has been purchased and will soon be in place. The company has 2,000,000 feet of lumber in the yard and expects to have the planing mill in operation by the first of June.

RUPRECHT'S MILL **Mastodon, Iron County, Michigan**

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 21 [Saturday, May 19, 1883], page 1, columns 4-5

J. RUPRECHT'S saw mill [*sic – sawmill*], near **Mastodon Junction**, is rapidly approaching completion, and will soon be ripping up the rough forest into merchantable [*sic – merchantable*] lumber. After the mill starts up that locality bids fair

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

to be quite lively and there is some talk of a station and townsite.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 30 [Saturday, July 28, 1883], page 8, column 1

RUPRECHT & CO'S. MILL.

As stated in the NEWS last week, the new saw-mill [sic – sawmill] of **Julius Ruprecht & Co.**, about nine miles above Florence, on the line of the C. & N-W., has commenced operations. The location is near the **Mastodon Crossing** and the germ of a town is apparent. It has been called **Enterprise** and already a postoffice [sic – post office] and depot are talked of. The new mill is owned by **Julius Ruprecht**, of **Waucedah**, and **A.J. Hughitt**, of **Escanaba**. It is located in the heart of about 15,000,000 feet of good pine, on lands owned by the Canal Company [*Lake Superior Ship Canal Company*] and Mrs. Galloway, of Fond du Lac. At present 50 men are employed about the mill, in different capacities and this force will subsequently be increased to 65, in all probability. Unlike the average back-woods [sic – backwoods] saw-mill [sic – sawmill], it is furnished with all of the latest machinery, and covered by a well-roofed, substantial structure. The cutting capacity is between 45,000 and 50,000 feet per day. The proprietors with good reason, [sic] expect a large local trade, [sic] from the mines and railroad. Cutting was commenced with a sale of about 500,000 feet, mostly to the North-Western railroad company. A side-track [sic – sidetrack] has been built into the mill and the yard will be made between this and the main track. Tramways for various purposes are being constructed and in all 1,600 feet of trestling will be required. The mill proper is 150x30 feet and will contain,

when completed, one large circular saw, edger, planer, trimmer, shingle mill, lath mill and three cutting-off saws. The power is in an Oshkosh engine, driven by steam generated in three boilers. Saw-dust [sic – Sawdust] is used for fuel and the firing is done in front of the boilers, instead of underneath, by which means Mr. Ruprecht claims he can generate as much steam in three boilers, [sic] as can be done in four, [sic] by the old method. To make a mill pond, they have built a wing dam around a marshy spot, through which a little creek trickled. Already the water has collected sufficiently, [sic] to admit of being used. Patent dogs are on the road, and taken together, the new mill is a little beauty.

The Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 44 [Saturday, November 3, 1883], page 4, column 2

Mastodon Murmurs.

The new town which is being laid out at **Ruprecht's mill**, [sic] is to be called "**Mastodon**". The people are of an enterprising spirit and will have a town there too.

WISCONSIN LAND & LUMBER
COMPANY
IXL SAWMILL
Hermansville, Menominee County,
Michigan

Florence Mining News, Florence, Florence County, Wisconsin, Volume III, Number 45 [Saturday, November 10, 1883], page 1, column 6

HORRIBLE ACCIDENTS.

DICKINSON COUNTY HISTORY - SAWMILLS

[Compiled and Transcribed by William J. Cummings]

Two Men Killed on the Range this Week in a Most Shocking Way – Powers and Hermansville the Scene of the Accidents.

Howard E. Thayer, of Escanaba, and employed as a conductor on ore train No. 51, running between Iron Mountain and Escanaba, met an untimely death at Powers, on Wednesday last, in a most horrible manner. He was coupling a box car to an ore car when the coupling broke, and both cars came together, completely squashing his head to jelly. All know that box cars are of a higher build than ore cars, so when the coupling-pin broke one car underlapped [*sic* – *underlapped*] the other, which explains the accident. Mr. Thayer was about 26 years of age, and had been married less than a year, his wife being at Escanaba. He formerly came from Kansas City, Mo., where his folks now reside. The deceased was well-known in Florence, as he run [*sic* – *ran*] on a construction train between here and Powers last fall and remained when in Florence, at the New York House.

A laborer, whose name could not be learned, in the employ of the Lumber Company at Hermansville, fell from a pile of lumber on Wednesday onto a piece of broken board, a splinter of six inches in length entering one of his eyes and penetrated through to his brain. He got up and walked to his boarding house, some fifteen rods, in that condition, and lived but ten minutes after.