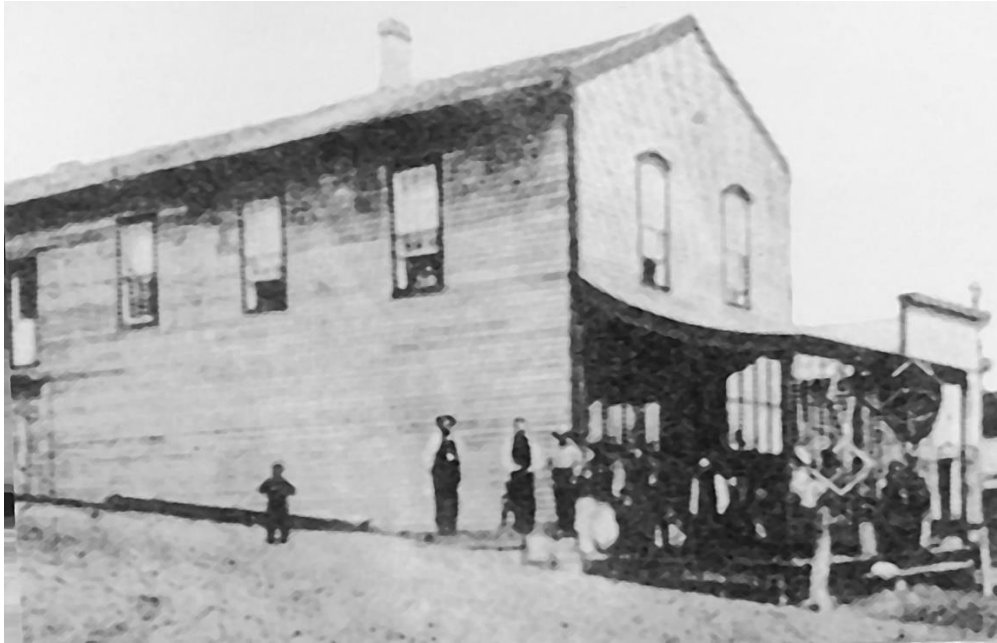


Burrows Goodno & Company

By Barbara Bedau Brow

White Lake Area Historical Society



The first building to stand on the northwest corner of Ferry and Dowling streets in Montague was built by E. R. Burrows as a hardware store sometime during the 1860s. The upper portion of the building was used by the Presbyterian Church. They held services there until the building burned in 1871. William Montague Ferry funded the rent and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the pastor's salary according to his 1867 will. Construction of Ferry Memorial Presbyterian Church was funded in Amanda White Ferry's will to provide a sanctuary. Construction on the church began in 1874 and the church opened in 1877. This spot then became the site of the Franklin House Hotel in 1873.

Following the fire, Burrows and Goodno set up shop in another building on the corner of Ferry and Spring streets where they operated until October 1874 when the partnership was dissolved. Goodno, however, continued to operate the hardware business at the location.

E. R. Burrows was one of 7 children born to Amaziah Burrows and Candace Frary. The children were all born between 1828 and 1846 in New York and Wisconsin. The family was living in Spring Lake in Ottawa County by 1850 but moved to the White Lake area soon after. The mother died here in August 1853 and is buried in the Mouth Cemetery. The youngest child, George, died in February 1856 and is also buried in the Mouth Cemetery with his mother.

The 1860 census shows Edwin R. Burrows, age 25 and his sister Mary L. Burrows, the youngest surviving child, age 16, living with the family of their married sister Rosella, age 28, and her husband Alfred Caine,

Justice of the Peace, in White River Township. Edwin's occupation is listed as sawyer and his sister Mary is listed as servant.

At the same time, another brother Edson C. Burrows, also known as Charles Edson Burrows, age 21, was living in a boarding house in White River Township along with Noah Ferry and George Dowling. His occupation was also listed as sawyer.

Harriet Burrows, the eldest child, was living in Claybanks Township with her husband John Barr and several of their nine children.

Emily Burrows married Capt. James Dalton in 1861. They had three children and lived in the White Lake area until his death in 1885. Her sister Mary Louisa Burrows married James's youngest brother Andrew Dalton in 1868.

C.E. Burrows was born in 1841 in Wisconsin as Charles Edson Burrows. For several years he operated the tug "Leader" for the White Lake Booming Company. He was also in the grocery business with Fred E. Jones in 1875, under the firm name of Burrows & Jones.

In February 1877, Burrows purchased a building formerly owned by D. P. Glazier and operated the C. E. Burrows hardware store on the corner of Ferry & Spring streets, where the first City Hall, jail and engine house would later be built. In 1879 Burrows and Jones built an elevator at the Montague Depot for the purpose of storing wheat.

In 1882 they completed a grand three-story brick building which was 50 ft x 80 ft. The two upper stories of the building were used as an Opera House while their grocery store occupied the rooms on the ground floor. This building was located on the east side of Ferry Street approximately midway between Dowling and Spring streets. The building was destroyed by fire in October 1884. They next purchased the grocery business of W. A. Austin. In addition to groceries, they also dealt in the boots and shoes trade.

In December 1890 it was announced that Burrows and Jones, Montague's oldest merchants, had sold their buildings, fixtures and stock to the Herren Brothers. They then went to Aberdeen, Washington, where Burrows engaged in the lumber business, and where he died 29 June 1907.

Ophir Rodolfrus Goodno was born in April 1841 in Stowe, Vermont. He married Elizabeth Black Emery in Grand Haven on 13 November 1864. They came to Montague shortly after where they lived and had three daughters.

O. R. Goodno was the first village postmaster in 1867, a position he held for almost 8 years, until he was removed in March 1875. The removal was a consequence of unspecified personal opposition by one of the well-known citizens of the town. Goodno was replaced by H. B. Strong.

In October 1875, it was announced that O.M. and R. M. Hedges had purchased the hardware business of O. R. Goodno.

Goodno was appointed Director of the School Board in November 1875. Mrs. Goodno died in March 1876. She was buried in Grandville. O. R. Goodno then married Sarah Ann Bell in Grand Haven on 23 April 1877, and they had a daughter. He died 4 Aug 1906 in Carson City, Michigan.