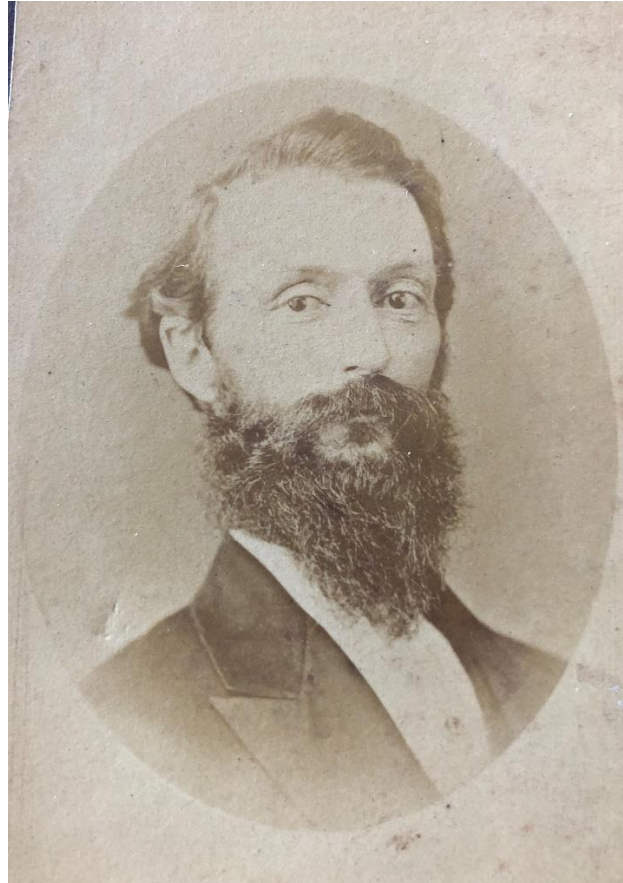


Citizens – C. C. Thompson
By Barbara Bedau Brow
White Lake Area Historical Society



C.C. Thompson (1831-1891)

Charles Carroll Thompson was born in Beekmantown, Clinton County, New York to Shubal and Margaret (ne West) Thompson on 4 June 1831. His father was a soldier of the War of 1812 and afterwards became a minister. C.C. was the oldest son born, having two older sisters and a younger brother. Charles spent the first twenty years of his life living and working on the family farm.

In 1851 he married Harriet M. Dewey of Clinton County, New York. They settled in Grafton, Illinois where he farmed for seven years. During this time, he also took charge of his younger brother and sister following the passing of his parents. Eventually they made their way to White Lake where they settled in 1857. They would have six children, only one of whom lived to adulthood. Mrs. Thompson died in September 1867.

In 1858 Charles bought a sawmill in connection with A. J. Covell at the head of the lake. In 1859 he purchased Mr. Covell's interest, and for two years worked the mill alone. At the end of that time, he opened a general store with Mr. Covell and another gentleman partner, which business in connection

with lumbering was carried on for four years, when the company sold the mill and built a schooner, the Maggie Thompson.

The Schooner Maggie Thompson was built in Holland, Michigan in 1867 and was owned by the group Haywood, Thompson and Covell. It was 110 feet in length with a 26-foot beam. The vessel had several owners during its lifetime, which ended in 1901 when it was abandoned.

Mr. Thompson again bought out Mr. Covell's interest in 1867 and for two years carried on business by himself.

Thompson was a member of the first Common Council and became President of the village in 1870. He was also a Trustee and Supervisor. He served for four years as a member of the Board of Education. He was a Representative of the State Legislature of 1873-74. He was also a member of the Masons since 1866. He was appointed Postmaster in January 1879 and served until December 1883 when he retired due to ill health.

Charles C. Thompson died at the home of his daughter Margaret Green in Chicago, Illinois on Thursday, 12 November 1891. His body was brought to Whitehall to the residence of M. B. Covell on Friday night where it remained until the funeral was held on Sunday. The services were held at the M.E. church under the direction of the Masons and the order marched to the cemetery in drenching rain. He was buried in Oakhurst Cemetery next to his wife and several of their children.

Thompson Street in Whitehall, which runs from Colby Street to the bridge and is part of the Causeway, was named for Charles Carroll Thompson.