

THE PATERNAL LINE OF ALBERT WESLEY WAGAR

In 1609, Henry Hudson established the Dutch colony of New Netherlands on the land that is now called New York. The Dutch welcomed settlers of all nationalities and established their capital as New Amsterdam. Even in its infancy, New York was America's 'melting pot' as there were eighteen distinct languages spoken there in 1643.¹

The Patroons, wealthy land owners, were granted vast quantities of land in New Netherlands by the Dutch government. Feudal systems had existed in the old country, which prevented common folk from owning the land on which they toiled. Europeans flooded the colonies to find new opportunities and to get away from the feudal systems. The Patroons had every intention of cultivating a new era of tenant farmers in the colonies. In 1629, Kiliaen Van Rensselaer received a grant to establish the colony of Rensselaerwyck.² Quantified in 1685 under the English crown, Rensselaerwyck "stretched twenty-four miles along the Hudson and ran twenty-four miles back into the country on both sides of the river."

THE ANTI-RENT ERA

In 1812, Rensselaerwyck manor was home to more than 3,000 families living on tenant farms of approximately 142 acres apiece. This was a mass improvement over the 600 tenants that held leases in 1789 when the young patroon, Stephen VanRensselaer III first took the reigns of his inheritance in 1785, at the tender age of twenty-one. Thirty years later, in 1815, VanRensselaer was worth an estimated \$7 million. The European demand for wheat grew steadily until 1819, when the market went bust and the Panic of 1819 ensued. Rensselaerwyck tenants could not afford to feed their families let alone pay their annual rent.

According to general Rensselaerwyck lease terms, the first seven years were rent free, while a new tenant worked to clear his land and prepare it for farming. After the grace period, the annual "rent" for each tenant consisted of 14 bushels of wheat per hundred acres. The quality of the crops produced in Rensselaerwyck suffered from soil depletion and "Hessian Fly" infestations, which had a devastating impact on the small yields they were able to get to market. In order to break the vicious cycle farmers needed to make adjustments in their farms methods to allow greater product diversification. However, they could not ask for further credit if they could not pay their rent arrears.³

Poor crops due to weather or disease resulting in non-payment of "rent" could result spell dire consequences for the tenant and his family. Jacob J. Wagar⁴ was one of many farmers born into this tenant farming cycle in the late eighteenth century.

¹ Russell Shorto, "Introduction," Gajus Scheltema and Heleen Westerhuijs, eds., *Exploring Historic Dutch New York: New York City, Hudson Valley, New Jersey and Delaware*, Kindle edition. New York, New York: Dover Publications and Museum of the City of New York, 2011; download from Amazon.com.

² Charles W. McCurdy, *The Anti-Rent Era in New York Law and Politics, 1839-1865*, Kindle edition, Chapel Hill, North Carolina: The University of North Carolina Press, 2001, Chapter 1: Governor Seward and the Manor of Rensselaerwyck; unpaginated epub; download from Amazon.com.

³ McCurdy, *The Anti-Rent Era in New York Law and Politics, 1839-1865*; unpaginated, Chapter 1.

⁴ The Wagar surname is found to be spelled either Wagar or Wager; we will use the most common spelling of Wagar for clarity. **ALSO**, all photos included in this article are used with permission of the Flat Rock Historical Society, copies are located in the Wagar Family Files; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

FIRST GENERATION, DESCENDING: JACOB J. WAGAR

1. **Jacob J.¹ Wagar** born about 10 June 1793 at Brunswick, Rensselaer County, New York; died 19 December 1864, Grafton, Rensselaer County, New York.⁵ He married **Hannah Hydorn** about 1820 at Rensselaer County.⁶

JACOB'S PARENTAGE

Jacob J. Wagar was the child of John L. Wagar Jr. and Eva Coonrad.⁷ In 1816, a young Jacob filed letters of administration on the estate of his deceased father, John L. Wagar Jr.⁸ He inherited his father's land and lease held by Stephen VanRensselaer; this was revealed when Jacob sold a parcel to Isaac Waterman in an 1827 deed which gave the provenance of the land.⁹

Eva Wagar, Jacob's widowed mother, resided with her sister Mariah Coonrad in the household of her son, Philip Wagar, brother of Jacob, during the summer months.¹⁰ According to a letter later sent by Aaron Wagar to his brother Henry, informing him of the death of "Granny Wagar." Eva Wagar had spent the winter of 1861 with Jacob, and later died in their home on 8th May 1862, on the same day she was born, at the ripe age of eighty-six.¹¹

⁵ Henry J. Wagar Family Bible Records, 1844-1948, The Holy Bible (New York, 1839), "Births;" privately held by Christine Stevens, [address for private use,] Ridgefield, Connecticut, 2014. The chain of provenance was from Henry J. Wagar to daughter, Ida (née Wagar) Glass, to her brother Albert W. Wagar, to his eldest son, Harley A. Wagar, to his only son, Dr. Spencer C. Wagar, to his only daughter, Christine (née Wagar) Stevens. A copy of Henry J. Wagar's Family Bible pages containing family data that was transcribed by the late Dr. Spencer C. Wagar is held by the Flat Rock Historical Society. **ALSO**, Rensselaer County, New York, Wills & Letters Administration 1865-1868, vol 66:319; Surrogate's Court, Troy, New York. *Letter granting wife Hannah Wager and brother-in-law, Peter Hydorn, administration of Jacob Wagar's Estate.*

⁶ Rensselaer County, New York, Wills & Letters Administration 1814-1817, 5:304; Surrogate's Court, New York. *Letter granting son Jacob J Wagar administration of father, John L. Wagar Jr.'s Estate.* **ALSO**, New York Family Tree (research by Marv Anderson, decd), Wagar Family Files, folder 2, item 4B; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *Extensive research on the roots of the Wagar family including information on Hannah (Hydorn) Wagar's lineage.*

⁷ New York Family Tree (research by Marv Anderson, decd), Wagar Family Files; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan

⁸ John L. Wagar Jr. is also known as Johannes Wagar. The Americanized name John appears in the records more often, so we will use it here. **ALSO**, "United States Census, 1800", database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2015), John Wager, 1800. **ALSO**, Rensselaer County, New York, probate records 5:305, John Wagar Jr.; Probate Court for the County of Rensselaer, Troy. *John Wagar Jr. died intestate in 1816, son Jacob J. Wagar was granted Letters of Administration on 19 April 1816* **ALSO**, "United States Census, 1820", database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015). *Jacob J Wager listing one male under ten, two males between ten and sixteen, one male from sixteen to eighteen, one male from eighteen to twenty-six, one male from twenty-six to forty-five LIKELY JACOB, one female under ten, one female twenty-six to forty-five, 1820. Also, neighboring household of John Hydorn containing two females of relative age, one of which is likely Jacob Wagar's future wife, Hannah Hydorn.*

⁹ "New York, Land Records, 1630-1975," images, FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 11 Dec 2015); citing Rensselaer County, New York, Deeds 1826-1827, 16:364-366; County Clerk's Office, Troy; FHL microfilm 2,078,654. *This deed gives us the legal description of the land, lease and chain of provenance. Jacob J. Wagar inherited the land from his father, shared it with his brothers, and sold a small parcel off.*

¹⁰ "United States Census, 1860", database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2015), Eve Wager in entry for Adam Coonrad, 1860. **ALSO**, "New York State Census, 1855," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 December 2015), Eve Wager in household of her son, Philip Wager, E.D. 1, Brunswick, Rensselaer, New York, United States; county clerk offices, New York; FHL microfilm 549,886.

¹¹ Aaron Wagar to (brother) Henry J. Wagar, letter, 20th July 1862, Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 10; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. News of Granny Wagar's death on her eighty-sixth birthday, 8th May 1862.

JACOB STARTS HIS OWN FAMILY

Jacob J. Wagar married Hannah Hydorn about 1819 and the couple produced eleven children between 1821 and 1838.¹² Jacob's farm was approximately two hundred acres in the village of Grafton, Rensselaer County, and had been part of his inheritance from his father.¹³ The Panic of 1819 found a newly married Jacob and Hannah Wagar with young children and a growing family to support, living on inherited land with an inherited lease. No rent grace period was granted on already improved land and rents were expected annually.

On his two hundred acres, Jacob's "rent" would have been 28 bushels of wheat annually, usually paid in February.¹⁴ The Wagers raised dairy cows to supplement their income by selling surplus dairy products. Information gleaned from the 1850 agricultural schedule for Jacob Wagar states that twenty percent of his acreage was unimproved, while eighty percent was used for farming. Products of his farm included hay, buckwheat, "Irish" potatoes, and dairy products like butter and cheese.¹⁵

Known children of Jacob J.¹ Wagar and Hannah Hydorn were as follows:

- 2 i. **SARAH WAGAR**, born 23 September 1821, Grafton; married William H. Simmons; died 6 April 1887 in Macon, Missouri.¹⁶
- + 3 ii. **HENRY J.² WAGAR**, born 3 December 1822, Grafton; married Susannah Margaret Coons; died 14 February 1915, Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁷
- 4 iii. **JOHN WAGAR**, born 29 June 1824; married Lydia Horton; died 28 November 1894, Brownstown, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁸

¹² 1830 U.S. census, Rensselaer County, New York, population schedule, Grafton, p. 183 (penned), line 5, Jacob J. Wager; NARA microfilm M19, roll 105; FHL Film 17,165. The 1830 household of Jacob J. Wagar includes 1 male 30-40, likely Jacob J. himself, 1 male 20-30, unknown, 2 males 5-10 likely sons Henry J. and John, 1 male under 5, likely son William N., 1 female 30-40, likely wife Hannah, 1 female 5-10, likely daughter Sarah, and 1 female under 5, likely daughter Elizabeth B. **ALSO**, 1840 U.S. census, Rensselaer County, New York, population schedule, Grafton, p. 184 (penned), line 13, Jacob J. Wager; NARA microfilm M704, roll 332; FHL Film 17,204. The 1840 household of Jacob J. Wagar includes 1 male 40-50, likely Jacob J. himself, 2 males 15-20, likely sons Henry J. and John, 2 males 10-15, likely sons Jonas and William N., 1 male under 10, likely son Jacob F, 1 male under 5, likely son Aaron, 1 female 40-50, likely wife Hannah, 1 female 15-20, likely daughter Sarah, 1 female 10-15, likely daughter Elizabeth B., 1 female 5-10, likely daughter Hannah J., and 1 female under 5, likely daughter Cynthia.

¹³ Map of Rensselaer Co., New York; Smith, Gallup & Co. Publishers, Philadelphia, 1861; digital image, Library of Congress (<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3803r.la000546> : accessed 1 Dec 2015) land ownership of Jacob J. Wagar; Library of Congress Geography and Map Division Washington, D.C. **ALSO**, "New York, Land Records, 1630-1975," images, FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 11 Dec 2015); citing Rensselaer County, New York, Deeds 1826-1827, 16:364-366; County Clerk's Office, Troy; FHL microfilm 2,078,654.

¹⁴ McCurdy, *The Anti-Rent Era in New York Law and Politics, 1839-1865*, p.11.

¹⁵ 1850 U.S. census, Rensselaer County, New York, agricultural schedule, Grafton; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 29 November 2014), p. 163 (penned), line 21, Jacob J. Wager.

¹⁶ "Missouri Deaths and Burials, 1867-1976," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 February 2015), Sarah Simmons, 06 Apr 1887; citing Macon Co. Mo., reference ; FHL microfilm 986,981.

¹⁷ "Death Records, 1897-1920," database with images, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Henry Wagas [Wagar], 14 February 1915, no. 383; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing.

¹⁸ "United States Census, 1880," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2015), John Wager, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district ED 247, sheet 7B, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0609; FHL microfilm 1,254,609. **ALSO**, "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, *FamilySearch* (<http://familysearch.org> : accessed 12 December 2015), John Wagar, 28 Nov 1894; citing p 429 rn 3330, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,363,833.

- 5 iv. **JONAS WAGAR**, born 19 January 1826, Grafton; married Mary Lakes; died 16 February 1899, Adams County, Illinois.¹⁹
- 6 v. **WILLIAM NELSON WAGAR**, born 10 November 1827, Grafton; married Jerusha McChesney; died 15 April 1908, Rensselaer County, New York.²⁰
- 7 vi. **ELIZABETH BARBARY WAGAR**, born 14 December 1829, Grafton; married cousin Ananias Wagar; died 8 March 1912, Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan.²¹
- 8 vii. **PERRY WAGAR**, born 16 January 1832, Grafton; died in infancy, 9 September 1834, Grafton.²²
- 9 viii. **JACOB THOMAS WAGAR**, born 14 October 1833 (twin), Grafton; married Naomi Mason; died 22 December 1902.²³
- 10 ix. **HANNAH JANE WAGAR**, born 15 October 1833 (twin), Grafton; married Lucas Bonesteel; died 27 October 1884, Rensselaer County, New York.²⁴
- 11 x. **AARON WAGAR**, born 8 October 1836, Grafton; married Ruth; died 12 October 1901, Poestenkill, Rensselaer County, New York.²⁵
- 12 xi. **CYNTHIA ADELINE WAGAR**, born 13 November 1838, Grafton, never married; died 24 June 1896, Troy, Rensselaer County, New York.²⁶

¹⁹ Find A Grave, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 1 April 2015), memorial 79840569, Jonas and Mary Wagar (1835–1899), Parklawn Cemetery, Barry, Pike County, Illinois; gravestone photograph by R&C.

²⁰ Rensselaer County, New York, probate records 222:201, William N. Wagar, 28 April 1908; Surrogate Court for the County of Rensselaer, Troy.

²¹ “Death Records, 1897-1920,” database with images, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Elizabeth B. Wagar, 8 March 1912, no. 8; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing.

²² Henry J. Wagar Family Bible Records, 1844-1948, The Holy Bible (New York, 1835), “Births”; privately held by Christine Stevens, [address for private use,] Ridgefield, Connecticut, 2014.

²³ “Town Clerks’ Registers of Men Who Served in the Civil War, ca 1861-1865”; digital database image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 29 November 2015); Jacob Wagar, enlisted 6 Sep 1862, 169th, Co. C; citing New York State Archives; Collection Number: (N-Ar)13774; Box Number: 48; Roll Number: 26, Albany.

²⁴ “United States Census, 1860”, database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MC7Q-WGM> : accessed 10 February 2016), Hannah J Bonesteel in entry for Jacob J Wagar, 1860.

²⁵ “Obituary for Aaron Wagar,” *The Daily Times* (Troy, New York), 14 Oct 1901, p. 2.

²⁶ “Obituary for Cynthia Wagar,” *The Daily Times* (Troy, New York), 26 Jun 1896, p. 2.



Henry Wagar ca 1890

SECOND GENERATION, DESCENDING: HENRY J. WAGAR

3. **Henry J.² Wagar** (Jacob J.¹), born 3 December 1822, Grafton, Rensselaer County, New York; married **Susannah Margaret Coons** on 19 September 1844, Grafton; died 14 February 1915, Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan.²⁷

HENRY'S PARENTAGE

A deed recorded in Rensselaer County, conveyed a certain parcel of land in Grafton between Jacob J. Wagar (grantor) and Henry Wagar (grantee), dated 17 January 1850, "for the consideration of one dollar," which supports a familiar relationship between the two parties.²⁸ Sadly, a deed dated 29 July 1854, shows Henry returning the very parcel given in 1850 back to Jacob for the consideration of seven hundred dollars paid in hand.²⁹

A letter from Jacob to Henry, dated 25 May 1856, begins with, "Dear son..." and goes on to ask if Henry has received the money he sent.³⁰ This letter fits with a second letter from Jacob to Henry, dated 27 June 1856, where Jacob has still not received confirmation from Henry that he has received the money Jacob sent in his last letter and writes:

"...I shall put two fifty Dollar Bills in this and I hope it will go to you Safe the Bills are Considerable wore bud they are good I got them out of the Bank I wand you to write to me as soon as you receive this for I shall feel in fear till I hear from this wether you receive the money or not..."³¹

Jacob Wagar died intestate on 19 December 1864; causing his wife Hannah and her brother, Peter Hydorn, to apply for letters of administration on 15 June 1865.³² In Rensselaer County, Henry's brother, William N.

²⁷ Henry J. Wagar Family Bible Records, 1844-1948, The Holy Bible (New York, 1835), "Births"; privately held by Christine Stevens, [address for private use,] Ridgefield, Connecticut, 2014. The chain of provenance was from Henry J. Wagar to daughter, Ida (née Wagar) Glass, to her brother Albert W. Wagar, to his eldest son, Harley A. Wagar, to his only son, Dr. Spencer C. Wagar, to his only daughter, Christine (née Wagar) Stevens. In the interest of preservation and distance, a full transcription of every bible page by the late Dr. Spencer Wagar was the only copy of the bible records available. This copy is on file at the Flat Rock Historical Society.

²⁸ "New York, Land Records, 1630-1975," images, FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 27 Nov 2014); citing Rensselaer County, New York, Deeds 1849-1850, 75:497-498; County Clerk's Office, Troy.

²⁹ "New York, Land Records, 1630-1975," images, FamilySearch (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 5 Dec 2015); citing Rensselaer County, New York, Deeds 1853-1854, 91:253-254; County Clerk's Office, Troy. **ALSO**, 1850 U.S. census, Rensselaer County, New York, agricultural schedule, Grafton; digital image, Ancestry.com (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 29 November 2014), p. 163 (penned), line 21, Jacob J. Wagar. *Jacob J. owned 160 acres of improved land and 40 acres of unimproved land. He produced Irish potatoes, Buckwheat, Butter, Cheese and Hay on his farm.*

³⁰ Jacob J. Wagar to Henry J. Wagar, letter, 25 May 1856, Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 6; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

³¹ Jacob J. Wagar to Henry J. Wagar, letter, 27 June 1856, Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 14; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

³²Rensselaer County, New York, Wills & Letters Administration 1865-1868, 66:319; Surrogate's Court, Troy, New York. Letter granting Hannah Wagar and Peter Hydorn administration of Jacob Wagar's Estate.

Wagar, will administer the estate of their mother, Hannah Wagar, after her decease in 1869; the county court settlement identifies each of Jacob and Hannah's children by name, including Henry Wagar and his sister, Elizabeth Barbary, wife of Ananias.³³

Lastly, Henry Wagar's death certificate identifies his birthplace as New York State and his parents as Jacob Wagar and Hannah Hydorn. Ida Glass, Henry's widowed daughter, who was living in his household at the time of his death, was the informant for the death certificate.³⁴ While Ida may have been too young to remember Jacob and Hannah, her grandparents, before they died; she had custody of her father's Family Bible. Henry's Bible records his parents as "Jacob Wagar and Hannah Wagar-his wife."³⁵ Henry and Susannah Margaret Wagar are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Huron Township, near his sons including Albert Wagar and his family.³⁶

Jacob J. Wagar, born 1793, of Grafton, Rensselaer County, New York, was the father of Henry Wagar, born 1845, resided in Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan, after 1855. Supporting this relationship statement are the following independently created, direct evidentiary items discussed in detail above: Henry Wagar's Family Bible listing Henry's parents, the land transaction between Jacob and Henry for the token amount of one dollar, the probate records of both Jacob and Hannah which names all their children, and personal family letters handwritten by Jacob, which sends money and explicitly addresses Henry Wagar, as "son."

MOVING WEST

The land leases and anti-rent wars had taken its toll on Henry Wagar. He could no longer support his growing family with income from his farm in Grafton. The opening of the Erie Canal in 1825 flooded the market with robust commodities harvested from fertile western soil. The promise of cheap rent had brought many new tenant farmers to Rensselaer County. Poor soil conditions, from decades of farming the same plot of land without crop rotation had yielded meager crops. The economic survival competition became fierce, and as the tenants with hungry families grew desperate, violence ensued.³⁷

Despite the fact that his parents, Jacob and Hannah, and many of his siblings were still living in Grafton, Henry decided that it was no longer safe for his family to remain in New York. Henry and his brother-in-law Ananias Wagar, went west to Michigan to look for new opportunities and a place to settle their growing families. The area that attracted them was called "Brown's Town."

³³ "New York Probate Records, 1629-1971," images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), Wills and administrations 1869-1874, vol. 76:6, administration of the estate of Hannah Wagar; Rensselaer county courthouse, Troy.

³⁴ "Death Records, 1897-1920," database, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Henry Wagas [Wagar], 14 February 1915, no. 383; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing

³⁵ Henry J. Wagar Family Bible Records, 1844-1948, The Holy Bible (New York, 1835), "Births"; privately held by Christine Stevens, [address for private use,] Ridgefield, Connecticut, 2014. The chain of provenance was from Henry J. Wagar to daughter, Ida (née Wagar) Glass, to her brother Albert W. Wagar, to his eldest son, Harley A. Wagar, to his only son, Dr. Spencer C. Wagar, to his only daughter, Christine (née Wagar) Stevens. In the interest of preservation and distance, a full transcription of every bible page by the late Dr. Spencer Wagar was the only copy of the bible records available. This copy is on file at the Flat Rock Historical Society.

³⁶ Oakwood Cemetery (Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan), Henry and Susannah Wagar marker, personally read, 2014.

³⁷ McCurdy, *The Anti-Rent Era in New York Law and Politics, 1839-1865*, pg.14

NATIVE AMERICANS AND BROWNSTOWN

Brown's Town was named for an area of land in southeast Michigan which had belonged to the Wyandot Chief, Adam Brown, a white man. About 1751, the Delawares, Shawnees, and Mingoes, conducted a raid near Fort Young in Virginia, during which they abducted a white male school boy of about eight years, Adam Brown. Many years later his elderly mother relayed this first hand account to Colonel Gamble:

"Colonel Gamble says: The last time I visited Colonel [Samuel] Brown I met there Colonel Brown's aged mother, a Mrs. Dickinson, a second time a widow. She was a very sensible and interesting old lady, and at that time could think and speak only of her long-lost first-born, who had been to see her some time before my visit. Colonel Brown's father had formerly lived in what is now Bath county, then a frontier settlement. In one of the raids made by the Indians, they pounced upon a school-house near Mr. Brown's residence, killed the teacher, captured the children, and among them Colonel Brown's elder brother, then a little white-headed chap, and carried him off; and for more than fifty years afterwards he was not heard of. The child fell to the lot of an Indian who lived on Lake Huron, and thither he was taken. Some time afterwards a French trader, who had married and lived among the Indians, bought the boy, adopted him, and taught him to read. The lad, grown up, married a squaw and became a chief. He had remembered and retained his name of 'Brown,' and the circumstances of his capture were such as not to be obliterated from his memory. Fifty years afterwards, upon a meeting of the Indians and whites for the purpose of making a treaty, he met with a man who knew his family, and assured him that his mother was still living. The old chief at once determined to visit her, and, attended by a son and daughter and some of his warriors, came to his brother's, in Greenbrier, and remained some months with his family. What a meeting between the aged mother and her long-lost son! [...] At the death of their father Brown, the law of primogeniture was in force in Virginia, and the old chief was the legal owner of all the paternal property, which was in fact nearly all that Colonel Brown possessed. The old chief was made acquainted with his rights, and before his departure conveyed to his brother all his title in the property."³⁸

Adam Brown died in Windsor, Ontario, on 23 August 1823; long before the Henry and Ananias Wagar journeyed to Michigan.³⁹ The federal government wanted to encourage the westward expansion of the frontier and had made deals with the Native Americans, which caused them to migrate west of the Mississippi.⁴⁰

The Wyandot Tribe had recently ceded the last of their Michigan land to the United States by treaty in 1843:

"The said nation also hereby cedes to the United States all their right and title to the Wyandotte Reserve, on both sides of the river Huron, in the State of Michigan, containing four thousand nine hundred and ninety-six acres, be the same more or less, being all the remaining lands claimed or set apart for the use of the Wyandots within the State of Michigan..."⁴¹

The Native Americans had mostly moved out of Michigan by 1855, to their government promised land,

³⁸ Waddell, Joseph Addison. *Annals of Augusta County, Virginia, from 1726 to 1871* vol 1, Caldwell, 1902; digital images, GoogleBooks (<https://books.google.com> : accessed 15 Dec 2015) pgs. 188-189.

³⁹ Assumption Church, "*Assumption Church Burial Register, Windsor, Ontario, Canada*" (typescript, translated from original French); copies of both the typescript and the original microfilmed church register (French) held by the Marsh Historical Collection, 235 Dalhousie St, Amherstburg, ON N9V 1W6, Canada. Author personally viewed both the microfilmed original burial register and the typescript, but chose to cite the typescript due to English translation, 2015.

⁴⁰ United States Congress, U.S. Statutes at Large, 21st Cong., 1st sess., Ch. 148 (1830), 411-12, "*An Act to provide for an exchange of lands with the Indians residing in any of the states or territories, and for their removal west of the river Mississippi*"; digital images, Library of Congress, A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875 (<https://memory.loc.gov> : accessed 1 Feb 2015)

⁴¹ Treaty with the Wyandot, 1842; Mar. 17, 1842, 11 Stat., 581; Proclamation Oct. 5, 1842. *This treaty effectively vacated the Native Americans from the banks along the Huron River in Wayne County, Michigan.*

west of the Mississippi.⁴² The vacated land along the banks of the Huron River which they had left behind, was fertile for farming and had a rich supply of timber. The Huron River provided water resources and fish for their table; as well as transportation and, when properly harnessed, water power.

A handful of Native Americans chose to stay in the area. Katie QuaQua, a Wyandot woman, remained in her cabin on the banks of the Huron River. Katie was born about 1806, the daughter of Wyandot Chief QuaQua, who had supported the British during the War of 1812.⁴³ She married Thomas McKee and she bore a daughter Mary McKee. Later she married a man named Clark.⁴⁴

Henry and Ananias Wagar saw the value of the land along the Huron River. Both men bought eighty acre land parcels under the Cash-Sale Act and settled on the banks of the Huron River.⁴⁵



Katie QuaQua's Cabin ca 1870

Ananias became one of the first white neighbors of Katie QuaQua, living on an adjacent tract. Interestingly, local legend states that Katie buried the small jars of money in and around her river cabin.⁴⁶ Katie was said to smoke a pipe like a man and liked her privacy. She had supposedly offered a half-bushel of silver to anyone willing to marry her daughter.⁴⁷ QuaQua died in 1876 leaving her cabin to her daughter.⁴⁸ Hattie Wagar recalls that her father, Ananias Wagar, had been plowing his field when he turned up a small jar containing \$37 in gold.⁴⁹

⁴² United States Congress, U.S. Statutes at Large, 21st Cong., 1st sess., Ch. 148 (1830), 411-12, “*An Act to provide for an exchange of lands with the Indians residing in any of the states or territories, and for their removal west of the river Mississippi*”; digital images, Library of Congress, A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875 (<https://memory.loc.gov> : accessed 1 Feb 2015)

⁴³ “Death of an aged Indian Woman: December 22, 1876,” *The Essex County Scrapbook* (Essex, Ontario, Canada), 9 Jul 1986, p.g 13 (reprint).

⁴⁴ History of Detroit and Wayne County and early Michigan: [Vol. 2] Farmer, Silas, 1839-1902. Detroit: Pub. by S. Farmer & co., for Munsell & co., New York, 1890, pg. 1313.

⁴⁵ April 24, 1820: Sale-Cash Entry (3 Stat. 566). **ALSO**, Patent of Henry Wagar, 1 Sep 1856,” Detroit, Michigan U.S. Land Office, Survey: 80 acres, Document Number: 31399, Authority: April 24, 1820: Sale-Cash Entry (3 Stat. 566). **ALSO**, Patent of Henry Wagar, 1 Sep 1856,” Detroit, Michigan U.S. Land Office, Survey: 80 acres, Document Number: 31391, Authority: April 24, 1820: Sale-Cash Entry (3 Stat. 566). *Henry and Ananias' patents for their farms in Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan*.

⁴⁶ “Old Indian Camping Ground,” undated clipping, ca 1900s, from unidentified newspaper; Gerald Wykes Field Notes Binder, River Raisin National Park, Monroe, Michigan, 2015. *Katie QuaQua's cabin was located on what later became the Augusta Rinne Farm. The Rinne farm house still exists today.*

⁴⁷ History of Detroit and Wayne County and early Michigan: [Vol. 2] Farmer, Silas, 1839-1902, pg. 1313.

⁴⁸ “Death of an aged Indian Woman: December 22, 1876,” *The Essex County Scrapbook* (Essex, Ontario, Canada), 9 Jul 1986, p.g 13 (reprint).

⁴⁹ “Relics of Indian Tribe Found Along Huron River,” undated clipping, ca 1930s, from unidentified newspaper clipping; Gerald Wykes Field Notes Binder, River Raisin National Park, Monroe, Michigan, 2015.

In late 1855, Henry and Susannah, packed what basic necessities could be fit on their wagon.⁵⁰ Their young sons, Albert, Sidney and Delbert, all under the age of ten, kissed their great-grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins good-bye as they left Grafton, New York, the only home and family they had known behind. Family was very important to Jacob and Hannah Wagar; they were heartbroken to learn that their children Henry and his sister Elizabeth Barbary, who was married to cousin Ananias, along with their children, were leaving Rensselaer County behind to begin a new life in Michigan. John Wagar, brother of Henry and Elizabeth, would later move west to join his siblings in Brownstown, Michigan.⁵¹

Henry and Susannah built a farm on their eighty acres on banks of the Huron River. Three more children were born to them, Wellington, Gordon and Ida Wagar.⁵² A 1856 letter from Jacob to Henry mentions that Jacob intended to journey to Michigan to visit them after the harvest that fall, however it is unclear from the remaining letters whether or not Jacob ever made it to Michigan before his death in 1864.⁵³

⁵⁰ History of Detroit and Wayne County and early Michigan: [Vol. 2] Farmer, Silas, 1839-1902. Detroit: Pub. by S. Farmer & co., for Munsell & co., New York, 1890, pg. 1429. *History of Henry and Ananias' settlement in Michigan*.

⁵¹ "United States Census, 1870," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), Lydia H Wager in household of John Wager, Michigan, United States; citing p. 36, family 289, NARA microfilm publication M593 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 552,208. **ALSO**, "United States Census, 1880," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2015), John Wager, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, United States; citing enumeration district ED 247, sheet 7B, NARA microfilm publication T9 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.), roll 0609; FHL microfilm 1,254,609.

⁵² 1870 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, p. 17 (penned), p.209 (stamped), dwelling 131, family 120, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm M593, roll 709; FHL Film 552,208. The 1870 household of Henry J. (47) and Susannah (42) Wagar includes son Albert W. (34), son Delbert (19), son Wellington (14), son Gordon (11), and daughter Ida (8). **ALSO**, 1880 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, enumeration district (ED) 247, p. 15 (penned), p.192C (stamped), dwelling 117, family 118, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm T9, roll 610; FHL Film 1,254,610. The 1880 household of Henry J. (57) and Susannah (53) Wagar includes son Delbert (26), son Gordon (21), and daughter Ida (18). **ALSO**, 1900 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, enumeration district (ED) 190, sheet 9B (penned), dwelling 189, family 189, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm T623, roll 754; FHL Film 1,240,754. The 1900 household of Henry J. (77) and Susannah (73) Wagar includes son Delbert (46), daughter Ida Glass (38), grandson Earl B. Glass (18), step-grandson Albert Glass (19), and boarder Allis Phillips (55). **ALSO**, 1910 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, enumeration district (ED) 294, sheet 4A (penned), p. 207 (stamped), dwelling 68, family 67, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm T624, roll 678; FHL Film 1,374,691. The 1910 household of Henry J. Wagar (87) includes son Delbert (57), daughter Ida Glass (46), grandson Earl B. (26) and wife Grace (27) Glass, great-granddaughter Jean Glass (10/12), and servant, Allen Parron (16).

⁵³ Jacob J. Wagar to Henry J. Wagar, letter, 27 June 1856, Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 14; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.



Wellington Wagar, Gordon Wagar, Ida Wagar Glass, Sidney Wagar
Delbert Wagar, Henry Wagar, Albert Wagar
Wagar Family Portrait ca 1910



Albert Wagar ca 1864

LETTERS TO BROTHER SIDNEY

Albert W. Wagar enlisted in the 4th Michigan Volunteer Infantry on 30 August 1864.⁵⁴ During his service, he sent many letters home to his family, and many to his brother Sidney Wagar.⁵⁵

Albert wrote his brother about being injured and his treatment in the hospital in Nashville, Tennessee. Much emotion is conveyed as he writes how many of their friends and neighbors had been badly injured: Abner Galpin, James Hale, and Pete Simons. Their neighbor and close friend Henry Moses was injured and hospitalized. Albert spent time in Huntsville, Alabama, where he complains about not receiving his pay for over six months and contracts “graybacks,” a clever name for lice. He sternly warns brother Sidney not to enlist. Albert is in Eastern Tennessee and writes about all the southern surrenders and the many “rebs” deserters that they have run across. He has mixed feelings about General Robert E. Lee’s surrender because there are so many deserters! Sent on to Green Lake, Texas, Albert tells brother that out of the hundred men in his Michigan unit, only thirty-five are still alive. It is a bittersweet moment for him. The Texas landscape, cattle runs and wild ponies are fascinating for him because it is so different from his home in Michigan.⁵⁶

⁵⁴ Compiled service record, Albert W. Wagar, Pvt., Co. D, 4 Michigan Inf.; Carded Records, Volunteer Organizations, Civil War; Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, 1780s–1917; National Archives, Washington, D.C.; NARA copy on file locally: Winnie Oestrike Collection, Wagar Family Files; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Michigan, microfilm publication M545, (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Service, 1949) roll 45, index card for Albert Wagar, Pvt., Co. D, 4th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. Albert W. Wagar was a Private in Company D, 4th Michigan Infantry and served from 30th August 1864 until 26 May 1866, for a service length of 1 year, 8 months and 24 days. **ALSO**, 1890 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, veterans schedule, enumeration district (ED) 179, p. 3 (penned), dwelling 192, family 197, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm M123, roll 17. The 1890 veterans schedule indicates that Albert W. Wagar was a Private in Company D, 4th Michigan Infantry and served from 30th August 1864 until 26 May 1866, for a service length of 1 year, 8 months and 24 days. **ALSO**, “United States Census of Union Veterans and Widows of the Civil War, 1890,” database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 8 February 2016, Albert W Wagar, 1890; citing NARA microfilm publication M123 (Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 338,176.

⁵⁵ Albert W. Wagar to Sidney Wagar, letter, 3 February 1865; War Letters of Private Albert W. Wagar 1864-6, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Sidney Wagar, letter, 9 March 1865; War Letters of Private Albert W. Wagar 1864-6, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Sidney Wagar, letter, 2 April 1865; War Letters of Private Albert W. Wagar 1864-6, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Sidney Wagar, letter, 13 April 1865; War Letters of Private Albert W. Wagar 1864-6, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Sidney Wagar, letter, 25 July 1865; War Letters of Private Albert W. Wagar 1864-6, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁵⁶ Albert Wagar to Sidney Wagar, various letters 1865; Flat Rock Historical Society.

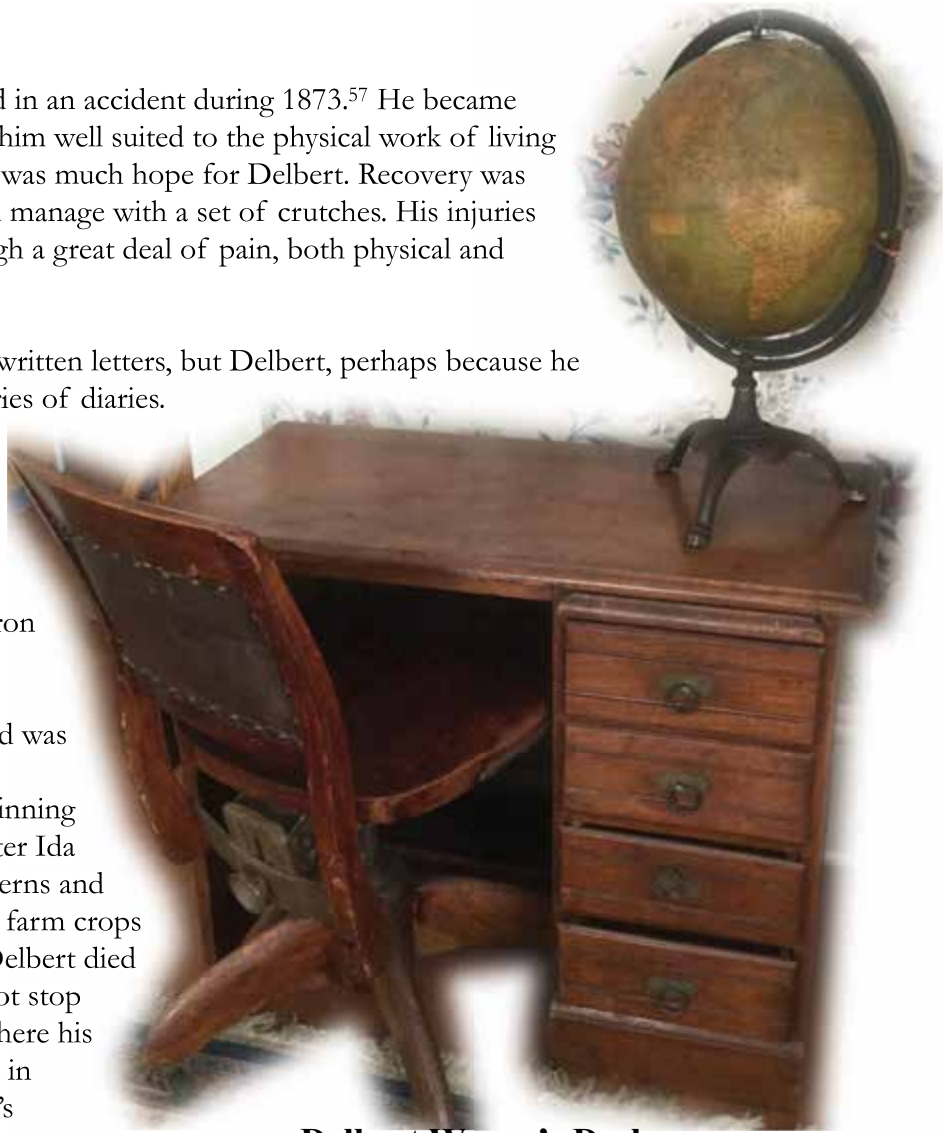
THE APIARIST

Henry's son Delbert was seriously injured in an accident during 1873.⁵⁷ He became permanently disabled which didn't make him well suited to the physical work of living on a farm. Dr. Lobdell did not feel there was much hope for Delbert. Recovery was slow progressing; but eventually he could manage with a set of crutches. His injuries were lifelong and Delbert suffered through a great deal of pain, both physical and mental.

Many of the Wagar family members left written letters, but Delbert, perhaps because he was confined due to his injuries, left a series of diaries.

These daily entries detailed the weather, the cycle of beekeeping, and many of the intricacies of planning that went into the farm orchards, crop rotation, seed gathering and even mentions the state adding fish to the Huron River.

Delbert learned the art of beekeeping and was able to supplement his father, Henry's, household income by selling his award winning honey. As his health deteriorated, his sister Ida and later his niece Grace learned the patterns and was able to take over the planning of the farm crops and keep track of the livestock sales.⁵⁸ Delbert died on 27 February 1911.⁵⁹ The diaries did not stop there, a new feminine script continued where his hand had left off. Grace Glass described in vivid detail the circumstances of Delbert's



Delbert Wagar's Desk

⁵⁷ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 2 September 1873; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. Brother Delbert getting around on crutches, will never walk normally again. Dr. Lobdell says there is nothing more that can be done for him.

⁵⁸ Delbert I. Wagar, "Wagar Diaries" (MS, Huron Township, Michigan, 1911), p. 140, duplicate originals for preservation purposes, Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. The last entry in Delbert's hand, before his death, is dated 10 February 1911. The female script of Grace Glass is on the bottom half of the page. His usual discussion revolves around the weather, carefully noting the temperature at various times through the day. **ALSO**, Delbert I. Wagar, "Wagar Diaries" (MS, Huron Township, Michigan, 1907), unpaginated letter to Grace Glass, duplicate originals for preservation purposes, Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. Delbert is making notes for Grace to learn his bee keeping trade. He advises her to get her comb honey supers ready by putting in the bait sections and wedging up [whatever that means]. Delbert produced award winning honey for years and people came from all over to buy his honey, so much that he made a good living at it. **ALSO**, Grace Glass, "Wagar Diaries" (MS, Huron Township, Michigan, 1911), p. 142, duplicate originals for preservation purposes, Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. 27 February 1911 - Delbert is dying. He has had yet another horrible night. Lawrence, his nephew, has come to sit with him for a spell. Brothers Sidney and Gordon sat next his bed all night. Albert and Betsey came. Aunt Edith kept busy and nervously checked on everyone. Delbert passed about half past five the morning on Tuesday, 28 February 1911. The preacher, Mr. Ainge, came to work out the funeral details at the Methodist Church. Our neighbors stopped by to drop off food and pay their respects. Still others rode the train in for the funeral.

⁵⁹"Death Records, 1897-1920," database with images, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org>; accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Delbert J. Wagar, no. 3 (1911); citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing. *The informant was Earl Glass, nephew of deceased and he would have had primary knowledge of his grandparents as he lived in his uncle's household.*

passing, all of the family members that had been present during his last night, the minister that helped to plan the funeral service and the neighbors who brought supper for the family. All these were first hand accounts of a farm funeral in the context of its midwest community, recorded in the pages of these wonderful diaries.⁶⁰

Ananias Wagar died on 1 October 1878.⁶¹ John Wagar died in 1894. Henry stepped forward and applied for administrator papers and posted the necessary bond for both brother-in-law Ananias in 1878 and brother John's death in 1894 further supporting the familiar relationships.⁶²

Children of Henry J. Wagar and Susannah Margaret Coons were as follows:

- + 13 i. **ALBERT WESLEY³ WAGAR**, born 27 June 1845, Grafton; married Nellie Burns, Mary Louisa Knight and Betsey Bennett; died 8 October 1936, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶³
- 14 ii. **SIDNEY MELVIN WAGAR**, born 17 December 1847, Grafton; married Nancy Renton; died 14 January 1933, Monroe County, Michigan.⁶⁴
- 15 iii. **DELBERT THOMAS WAGAR**, born 27 June 1853, Grafton; never married; died 27 Feb 1911, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶⁵
- 16 iv. **WELLINGTON WAGAR**, born 10 zMarch 1856, Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan; married Caroline Elizabeth Butler and Minnie Scherer; died 23 March 1937, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶⁶
- 17 v. **GORDON WAGAR**, born 12 August 1858, Huron; married Edith Smithson; died 13 December

⁶⁰ Grace Glass, "Wagar Diaries" (MS, Huron Township, Michigan, 1911), p. 187, duplicate originals for preservation purposes, Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. 3 December 1911 – Celebrating grandpas's birthday today. He is 89! [Henry J.] All the family drove in, including Aunt Lib [Henry's sister Elizabeth B.] **ALSO**, Grace Glass, "Wagar Diaries" (MS, Huron Township, Michigan, 1912), unpaginated rear cover, duplicate originals for preservation purposes, Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. Back of her diary book is used for planning purposes. Grace kept careful records on the sale of her calves and the prices she got for them. That tally was used to plan the next year's production.

⁶¹ "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/>: accessed 15 February 2015), Americus [sic] Wagar, 01 Oct 1878; citing p 235 rn 1694, Huron, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,363,666. **ALSO**, "Michigan Probate Records, 1797-1973," images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org : accessed 15 February 2015), Probate packet no. 9426 (1880), Ananias Wagar, Wayne county courthouse, Detroit. *Henry Wagar applies for and is granted administration of brother-in-law Ananias Wagar's estate.*

⁶² "Michigan Probate Records, 1797-1973," images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org : accessed 14 February 2015), Probate packet no 20559 (1894), John Wagar, Wayne county courthouse, Detroit. *Henry Wagar applies for and is granted administration of brother John Wagar's estate.*

⁶³ "Brief Obituary of Albert W. Wagar" obituary for Albert W. Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 16 October 1936; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *This obituary identifies Albert W. Wagar as the son of Henry J. and Margaret Wagar, the husband of "Millie" Burns, Louisa Knight and Betsy Bennett who he married in 1891.* **ALSO**, Oakwood Cemetery (Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan), Albert Wesley Wagar marker, personally read, 2014.

⁶⁴ "Death Records, 1921-1941," database with images, Archives of Michigan (http://seekingmichigan.org: accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Sidney M. Wagar, no. 3719 (1933); citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing.

⁶⁵ "Death Records, 1897-1920," database with images, Archives of Michigan (http://seekingmichigan.org: accessed 29 November 2014), death certificate image, Delbert J. Wagar, 27 February 1911, no. 3; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing. The informant was Earl Glass, nephew of deceased and he would have had primary knowledge of his grandparents as he lived in his uncle's household.

⁶⁶ Flat Rock, Michigan, Transcript of Certificate of Death-Local Register, registered no. 1, Wellington Wagar, 1937; City Clerk's Office, Flat Rock. *The informant was Minnie Wagar, his wife, who knew her in-laws personally.* **ALSO**, "Wellington Wagar Passes to Reward 1856-1936" obituary for Wellington Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 25 March 1936; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *The obituary identifies Wellington as the brother of Gordon Wagar and the husband of Minnie Scherer.*

- 1941, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶⁷
- 18 vi. **IDA WAGAR**, born 3 October 1861, Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan; Harley J. Glass; died 15 December 1936, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶⁸

THIRD GENERATION, DESCENDING: ALBERT WESLEY WAGAR

13. **Albert Wesley³ Wagar** (Henry L.², Jacob J.¹), born 27 June 1845, Grafton, Rensselaer County, New York; married **Nellie Burns, Mary Louisa Knight, and Betsy Bennett**; died 8 October 1936, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.⁶⁹

ALBERT'S PARENTAGE

On February 14, 1915, Henry Wagar died.⁷⁰ His last will and testament named son Sidney M. Wagar as his executor. Henry left his household items, personal effects and the option to purchase the farm or \$45/acre to his widowed daughter, Ida Glass.⁷¹ The remainder of his estate was to be distributed among all six of his children by name: Albert W. Sidney M., Wellington, Delbert I., Gordon and Ida.⁷² However, it was son Albert's signature on the Huron township receipt for his father's final tax on his estate in 1916.⁷³

Albert W. Wagar, born 1845 was the eldest child of Henry J. Wagar, residing in Huron Township, Wayne

⁶⁷ "Gordon Wagar Buried Tuesday Afternoon" obituary for Gordon Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 14 December 1941; Local History Obituary Collection, card file; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *The obituaries identify Gordon Wagar as the son of Henry J. and Susannah Wagar, the husband of Edith Smithson who he married in 1891.*

⁶⁸ "Mrs. Ida Glass Called by Death" obituary for Ida (née Wagar) Glass, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 18 December 1936; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *The obituary identifies Ida (née Wagar) Glass as the daughter of Henry J. Wagar and Margaret Coons.* **ALSO**, 1884 Michigan state census, Wayne County, population schedule, Flat Rock village; digital image, Archives of Michigan, SeekingMichigan.org (<http://www.seekingmichigan.org>; accessed 29 November 2014), p. 84D (penned), dwelling 369, family 368, for Henry J. Wagar household. The 1884 household of Henry J. (61) and Susannah (56) Wagar includes son Delbert (31), son Gordon (25), daughter Ida Glass (23), grandson Earl Glass (5/12), step-son Albert Glass (3) and boarder Herman Lobwitz (21). *This 1884 state census also shows that Ida Wager married Harley Glass on November 22, 1883.*

⁶⁹ "A.W. Wagar, Popular Citizen of Flat Rock Leads Exemplar Life: One of the Few Surviving Members of Wallace Post G.A.R.," Trenton (Michigan) Evening News, 27 August 1926; Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 14; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Flat Rock, Michigan, Transcript of Certificate of Death-Local Register, registered no. 8, Albert W. Wagar, 1936; City Clerk's Office, Flat Rock. *The informant was Betsy Wagar, his wife, who had known Henry and Susannah Wager, her in-laws, personally.*

⁷⁰ "Henry Wagar Sr. Dead" obituary for Henry J. Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 15 February 1915.; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. The obituary identifies Henry Wagar as the father of Albert W., Sidney, Gordon, and Delbert (deceased); oddly, no mention is made about daughter Ida, son Wellington nor wife Susannah.

⁷¹ Wayne County, Michigan, Deed Book L987:239, Sidney M Wagar et al to Ida Glass, 5 June 1915; Register of Deeds Office, Detroit. Henry left daughter Ida Glass the option to buy his farm. The sale was completed 5 June 1915.

⁷² Wayne County, Michigan, probate file 335628, Henry J. Wagar; Probate Court for the County of Wayne, Detroit. Henry J. Wagar died with a Will in 1915, son Sidney M. Wagar was named as his executor. Henry left his household items to be divided between his children Delbert Wagar and Ida Glass. Delbert had died in 1911, so Ida received the personal effects of her father. Henry also left Ida the farm if she wished to purchase it for \$45/acre, which she did. The remainder of his estate was to be distributed among all six of his children: Albert W. Sidney M., Wellington, Delbert I., Gordon and Ida.

⁷³ Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan, "1916 Tax Roll [property]," p.73 (penned), receipt no. 460 (stamped), Wagar, Henry Est.; Treasurer's Office, New Boston. Receipt for final property tax on the estate of Henry Wagar, paid by Albert W. Wagar.

County, Michigan after 1855.⁷⁴ This is supported in considering the following independent, direct evidentiary items: Population schedules consistently show Albert and his five siblings living in Henry and Susannah's household until 1880 when Albert can be found in his own household with wife Mary Louisa.⁷⁵ Henry Wagar's probate and obituary name all of his children including Albert.⁷⁶ All three of Alberts' state marriage registrations consistently name Henry and Margaret Wagar as Albert's parents.⁷⁷

Albert wrote many letters to his fiancée, Nellie Burns, after his return from the war.⁷⁸ In addition to helping his folks out on the farm, he took a job as a sawyer. Albert writes candidly about business at the Metler's mill and how the lumber business lost money the previous year. He is optimistic that new railroad prospects were expected to bring in more business during 1872. Nellie often "postpones" making wedding plans and Albert's pleading tone implies that she may be unsure of the union.⁷⁹

Unfortunately, one of Metler's biggest customers was the undertaker. Albert often gets first hand news of deaths in the town. He especially seems upset when the coffins are for children; where the tone of his letters imply that he is ready to start his own family. Mr. Shurban's children were lost to Typhoid Fever and were buried together in the same coffin.⁸⁰ Albert works at the sawmill and is keenly aware of who buys coffins.

⁷⁴ 1870 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, p. 17 (penned), p.209 (stamped), dwelling 131, family 120, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm M593, roll 709; FHL Film 552,208. The 1870 household of Henry J. (47) and Susannah (42) Wagar includes son Albert W. (34), son Delbert (19), son Wellington (14), son Gordon (11), and daughter Ida (8). **ALSO**, 1880 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, enumeration district (ED) 247, p. 15 (penned), p.192C (stamped), dwelling 117, family 118, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm T9, roll 610; FHL Film 1,254,610.

⁷⁵ 1850 U.S. census, Rensselaer County, New York, population schedule, Grafton, p. 269 (stamped), family 1587, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm M432, roll 586; FHL Film 444,302. The 1850 household of Henry J. (27) and Susannah (28) Wagar includes son Albert W. (4), son Sidney M. (2), cousin Clarissa Coons (14), and cousin Lydia Coons (12). This is the last census before moving to Michigan. **ALSO**, 1860 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Huron township, p. 66 (penned), dwelling 577, family 549, Henry J. Wager; NARA microfilm M653, roll 564; FHL Film 803,564. The 1860 household of Henry J. (35) and Susannah (33) Wagar, now living in Huron township, Wayne County, Michigan, includes son Albert W. (14), son Sidney M. (12), son Delbert (7), son Wellington (4), and son Gordon (2). **ALSO**, "United States Census, 1870," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 8 February 2015), Albert Wager in household of Henry Wager, Michigan, United States; citing p. 17, family 120, NARA microfilm publication M593 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 552,208. **ALSO**, 1880 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 255, p. 8 (penned), dwelling 84, family 84, Albert W. Wager; NARA microfilm T9, roll 609; FHL Film 1,254,609. The 1880 household of Albert W. (33) and wife Mary Louisa (25) Wagar includes son Frederick (3), and father-in-law Phillip Knight (64).

⁷⁶ Wayne County, Michigan, probate file 335628, Henry J. Wagar; Probate Court for the County of Wayne, Detroit. **ALSO**, "Henry Wagar Sr. Dead" obituary for Henry J. Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 15 February 1915.

⁷⁷ "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Albert Wesley Wagner and Nellie Louise Burns, 03 Jul 1874; citing Mt. Clemens, Macomb, Michigan, v 2 p 270 rn 1388, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,342,457. **ALSO**, "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 4 February 2015), Albert W. Wager and Mary Louisa Knight, 01 May 1878; citing Hudson, Lenawee, Michigan, v 2 p 197 rn 689, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,342,463. **ALSO**, Wayne County, Michigan, Certified Record of Marriage, no.8107, Wagar-Bennett, 1891; County Clerk's Office, Detroit.

⁷⁸ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 24 December 1871; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁷⁹ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 25 December 1872; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁸⁰ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 4 April 1872; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

Mr. McKee's two children were lost to Spotted Fever.⁸¹

Albert's worries weren't just limited to the mill. He also worked on the family farm. There was a bad drought in 1872, the crops are suffering. He worried about weather; and prayed for rain. Financial crisis hitting the town due to the drought. Work at the mill became stagnant. The poor crops from the drought affected the food supply and many people worried about surviving the winter. Not enough money to pay for wedding, so they postpone yet again.⁸² New work on Grosse Ile, he has to take the "hand car" over the river to the island. It is a welcome opportunity to make some extra money to make the wedding happen.⁸³

In April 1873, Albert's brother, Delbert was hurt in a farming accident. The letter doesn't specifically give us the nature of Delbert's injury; however Albert writes his fiancée Nellie, fearing that his brother may die. Brother Delbert getting around on crutches, will never walk normally again. The local physician, Dr. Lobdell, has determined that nothing more that can be done for Delbert.⁸⁴

Albert Wagar married Nellie L. Burns during the summer of 1874.⁸⁵ A son, Wesley, was born 8 June 1875, but failed to thrive. Albert's son died on 6 September; sadly, his wife, Nellie, died a few weeks later on 22 September 1875.⁸⁶

In 1878, Albert Wagar married Mary Louisa Knight, the daughter of Phillip and Mary E. Knight.⁸⁷ Twin sons were born on 22 August 1879, and were named Edward and Fred Wagar.⁸⁸ Sadly, one of the infant twins, Edward, died two days later. Fred, the other twin, later died from Consumption at the tender age of

⁸¹ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 28 April 1872; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁸² Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 22 July 1872; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 8 November 1873; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁸³ **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 29 March 1873; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁸⁴ Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 2 April 1873; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. **ALSO**, Albert W. Wagar to Nellie Burns, letter, 2 September 1873; Albert Wagar's Letters to First Wife Nellie Burns, 1871-1874, Family Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan.

⁸⁵ "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Albert Wesley Wagner and Nellie Louise Burns, 03 Jul 1874; citing Mt. Clemens, Macomb, Michigan, v 2 p 270 rn 1388, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,342,457.

⁸⁶ Oakwood Cemetery (Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan), Nellie Wagar marker, personally read, 2014.

⁸⁷ "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 4 February 2015), Albert W. Wagar and Mary Louisa Knight, 01 May 1878; citing Hudson, Lenawee, Michigan, v 2 p 197 rn 689, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,342,463. **ALSO**, "United States Census, 1870," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 4 February 2015), Philip Knight, New York, United States; citing p. 75, family 636, NARA microfilm publication M593 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 552,592. **ALSO**, 1880 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 255, p. 8 (penned), dwelling 84, family 84, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm T9, roll 609; FHL Film 1,254,609. The 1880 household of Albert W. (33) and wife Mary Louisa (25) Wagar includes son Frederick (3), and father-in-law Phillip Knight (64). **ALSO**, 1884 Michigan state census, Wayne County, population schedule, Flat Rock village; digital image, Archives of Michigan, SeekingMichigan.org (<http://www.seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2014), p. 68D (penned), dwelling 269, family 272, for Albert W. Wagar household. The 1884 household of Albert W. (37) and Mary L. (33) Wagar includes son Fred L. (4) and son Harley A. (3)

⁸⁸ "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), Fred L. Wagar, 05 Feb 1897; citing item 1 p 416 rn 3407, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,364,222.

seventeen. Tragedy struck again, when a stillborn daughter was delivered on 22 November 1882.⁸⁹

Albert and Mary Louisa had two more sons, Henry and Harley Wagar, both would survive to adulthood, marry and produce children.⁹⁰ Mary Louisa Wagar died on 22 Oct 1887.⁹¹

Albert Wagar married Betsey Bennett in 1891 at Flat Rock.⁹² The marriage did not produce any children. Betsey Bennett was born on 23 Feb 1854 in Germany.⁹³ She was the daughter of Charles Bennett and Caroline Keichman who immigrated from Germany about 1860 shortly after Betsey was born. Albert had known Betsey since they were young. Betsey had worked as a domestic servant in the household of his neighbor Henry Moses.⁹⁴



Betsey & Albert Wagar ca 1925

⁸⁹ "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), [baby girl] Wagar, 22 Nov 1882; citing p 316 rn 2340, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,363,671.

⁹⁰ "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), Harley Wagar, 09 Mar 1881; citing item 2 p 312 rn 4002, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,320,577. **ALSO**, "United States World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2015), Henry Herman Wagar, 1942; citing NARA microfilm publication M1936, M1937, M1939, M1951, M1962, M1964, M1986, M2090, and M2097 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.).

⁹¹ Oakwood Cemetery (Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan), Mary Louisa Wagar marker, personally read, 2014.

⁹² Wayne County, Michigan, Certified Record of Marriage, no.8107, Wagar-Bennett, 1891; County Clerk's Office, Detroit. **ALSO**, 1910 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Brownstown township, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 01, p. 20A (penned), p. 136 (stamped), dwelling 434, family 447, Albert W. Wager; NARA microfilm T624, roll 678; FHL Film 1,374,691. The 1910 household of Albert W. (69) and wife Betsey (56) includes son Henry H. (23).

⁹³ Betsey Wagar, widow's pension application no. 298965, for service of Albert W. Wagar (Pvt., Co. D, 4th Reg Mich Vols.,1864); Compiled service record, Albert W. Wagar, Pvt., Co. D, 4 Michigan Inf.; Carded Records, Volunteer Organizations, Civil War; Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780s–1917; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

⁹⁴ "United States Census, 1870," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 8 February 2015), Albert Wager in household of Henry Wager, Michigan, United States; citing p. 17, family 120, NARA microfilm publication M593 (Washington D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, n.d.); FHL microfilm 552,208. *Betsey Living next door, working as a servant.*



**Albert & Betsey Wagar's Home
Flat Rock Historical Society**

In October 1912, Albert Wagar purchased a house and lot, located on Detroit Street in the Village of Flat Rock, from Mrs. D.H. Perry, the daughter of Esther Langs.⁹⁵ Albert and Betsey Wagar moved into their new house and lived there for the remainder of their lives.⁹⁶ Towards the end of his life, Albert spent much of his time in front of the picture window where he could watch the activity along the busy street. Occasionally during village parades, the veterans would stop in his yard, the band would play and they would salute the elder Civil War veteran.

Albert W. Wagar died intestate on 8 October 1936.⁹⁷ His son Henry filed for administration papers. Betsey Wagar died on 16 May 1940.⁹⁸ After forty-five years of marriage to Albert Wagar,

Betsey was laid to rest in the Huron Valley Cemetery next to her parents.⁹⁹ The Wagar family refused to bury her in the Oakwood Cemetery next to their father, Albert; although she has a blank marker there.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁵ Wayne County, Michigan, Deed Book L896:186, Mrs. D.H. Perry to Albert W. Wagar, 17 Oct 1912; Register of Deeds Office, Detroit. *This is the purchase of the house formerly on Telegraph now known as the Langs-Wagar House.*

⁹⁶ 1920 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Brownstown township, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 03, p. 3A (penned), p. 10 (stamped), dwelling 60, family 63, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm T625, roll 800; FHL Film 1,820,800. The 1920 household includes Albert W. (74) and wife Betsey (64) Wagar. **ALSO**, 1930 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Brownstown township, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 82-880, p. 8A (penned), dwelling 610, family 178, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm T626, roll 1030; FHL Film 2,340,765. The 1930 household includes Albert W. (84) and wife Betsey (74).

⁹⁷ Wayne County, Michigan, probate file 235309, Albert W. Wagar; Probate Court for the County of Wayne, Detroit. Albert W. Wagar died intestate in 1936, son Henry H. Wagar filed a petition with the court on 6 November 1936, which identified the "heirs at law" being himself and Harley A. Wagar (surviving sons) and Betsey Wagar (widow). Notice was published in the *Huron Valley Sentinel* on 13th, 20th and 27th November 1936, publicly announcing the probate hearing for 21 December 1936.

⁹⁸ Wayne County, Michigan, death certificate 82-14182 (1940); Betsey Wagar, Michigan Department of Health, Lansing. Betsey is buried at the "Bunte Cemetery," not Oakwood Cemetery, where her husband Albert was buried. **ALSO**, "Deaths: Mrs. Betsey Wagar" obituary for Betsey Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 18 May 1940; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. *The obituary identifies Betsey (née Bennett) Wagar as the wife of Albert W. Wagar with two surviving step-sons Henry and Harley Wagar.*

⁹⁹ "Death Records, 1921-1947," database with images, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2015), death certificate image, Charles Bennett, 17 February 1925, no. 82-4930; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing. Betsey's father interred at Huron Valley/Bunte Cemetery. **ALSO**, 1900 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Brownstown township, enumeration district (ED) 198, p. 20B (penned), dwelling 463, family 463, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm T623, roll 754; FHL Film 1,240,754. The 1900 household of Albert W. (55) and wife Betsey (44) Wagar includes son Harley A. (19), and son Henry H. (15). **ALSO**, 1910 U.S. census, Wayne County, Michigan, population schedule, Brownstown township, Flat Rock village, enumeration district (ED) 01, p. 20A (penned), p. 136 (stamped), dwelling 434, family 447, Albert W. Wagar; NARA microfilm T624, roll 678; FHL Film 1,374,691. The 1910 household of Albert W. (69) and wife Betsey (56) includes son Henry H. (23).

¹⁰⁰ Oakwood Cemetery (Huron Township, Wayne County, Michigan), Betsey Wagar marker, personally read, 2014. Although, there is a marker for Betsey, there is no date of death on the stone. Oakwood Cemetery has no record of burial.

Known child of Albert Wesley Wagar and Nellie Burns is as follows:

- 19 i. WESLEY WAGAR, born 8 June 1875, Flat Rock; died 6 September 1875, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁰¹

Known children of Albert Wagar and Mary Louisa Knight were as follows:

- 20 i. EDWARD WAGAR, born 22 August 1879 (twin), Flat Rock; died 24 August 1879, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁰²
- 21 ii. FRED L. WAGAR, born 22 August 1879 (twin), Flat Rock; died 5 February 1897, Brownstown, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁰³
- 22 iii. HARLEY ALBERT WAGAR, born 29 March 1880, Flat Rock; married Hazel Chapman; died 3 October 1940, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁰⁴
- 23 iv. [FEMALE] WAGAR, born 22 November 1882; died after birth, Flat Rock.¹⁰⁵
- 24 v. HENRY HERMAN WAGAR, born 26 May 1885, Flat Rock; married Ada C. Erving; died 13 April 1947, Flat Rock, Wayne County, Michigan.¹⁰⁶

¹⁰¹ "Michigan Deaths and Burials, 1800-1995," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Wesley J. Wagar, 06 Sep 1875; citing Huron, Wayne, Mich., reference yr 1875; FHL microfilm 1,377,685.

¹⁰² "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Wager, 22 Aug 1879; citing item 1 p 280 rn 3496, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,320,571. **ALSO**, "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Wager, 24 Aug 1879; citing p 247 rn 1514, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,363,668.

¹⁰³ "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 7 February 2015), Wager, 22 Aug 1879; citing item 1 p 280 rn 3496, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,320,571. **ALSO**, "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/> : accessed 7 February 2015), Fred L. Wagar, 5 Feb 1897; citing item 1 p 416 rn 3407, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,364,222.

¹⁰⁴ "Michigan Marriages, 1868-1925," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2016), Harley Wager and Hazel Chapman, 20 Oct 1906; citing Rockwood, Monroe, Michigan, v 4 p 169 rn 1403, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,342,675. **ALSO**, "Death Records, 1921-1947," database with images, Archives of Michigan (<http://seekingmichigan.org> : accessed 29 November 2015), death certificate image, Harley Wagar, 3 October 1940, no. 82-14486; citing Michigan Department of State, Division of Vital Statistics, Lansing. **ALSO**, "Rockwood Banker Dies at Age of 59: Harley Albert Wagar, 1881-1940" obituary for Harley Albert Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 4 October 1940; "Mr. Wagar," obituary, Monroe County Weekly, 10 October 1940; Local History Obituary Collection, card catalogue; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. The obituaries identify Harley A. Wagar as the son of Albert W. and Mary Louisa Wagar, the husband of Hazel Chapman who he married in 1906, the father of Dr. Spencer Wagar and the grandfather of Christine Wagar.

¹⁰⁵ "Michigan Deaths, 1867-1897," database with images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2015), Wagar, 22 Nov 1882; citing p 316 rn 2340, Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,363,671.

¹⁰⁶ "Michigan Marriages, 1822-1995," database, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 February 2016), Henry H. Wagar and Ada C. Erving, 28 May 1913; citing reference B20 P248 cn 94089; FHL microfilm 1,377,653. **ALSO**, "Michigan Death Certificates, 1921-1952," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org> : accessed 16 December 2015), Henry H Wagar, 13 Apr 1947; citing Brownstown, Wayne, Michigan, United States, Division for Vital Records and Health Statistics, Lansing; FHL microfilm 1,973,143. **ALSO**, "Henry H. Wagar 1885-1947" obituary for Henry H. Wagar, Monroe (Michigan) Evening News, 14 August 1947; Wagar Family Files, folder 3, item 18; Winifred Oestrike Collection; Flat Rock Historical Society, Flat Rock, Michigan. The obituary identifies Henry H. Wagar as the son of Albert W. **ALSO**, Wayne County, Michigan, probate file 235309, Albert W. Wagar; Probate Court for the County of Wayne, Detroit. Albert W. Wagar died intestate in 1936, son Henry H. Wagar filed a petition with the court on 6 November 1936, which identified the "heirs at law" being himself and Harley A. Wagar (surviving sons) and Betsey Wagar (widow). Notice was published in the Huron Valley Sentinel on 13th, 20th and 27th November 1936, publicly announcing the probate hearing for 21 December 1936.