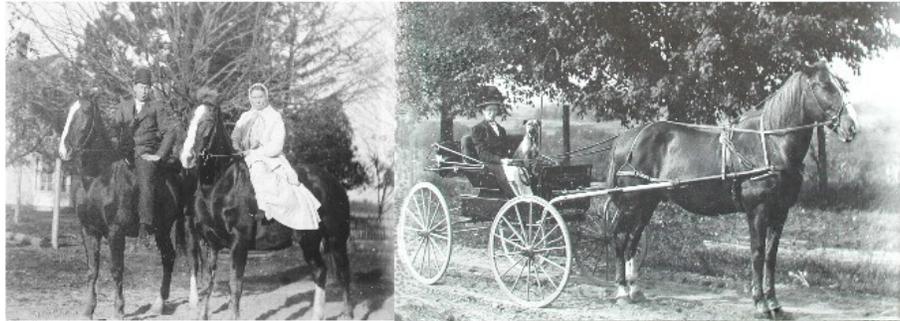


The just sworn in governor of Michigan and the Michigan legislature emphatically rejected the invitation to attend the peace conference. “Senator Chandler Michigan's most virulent Republican legislator, concurred with this action and wrote Blair that a civil war was desirable because the blood of patriots and tyrants was the “natural manure” of the Tree of Liberty and that “without a little bloodletting” the Union would not be “worth a rush.” (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 107) We wonder if this senator who was so in favor of war went into battle or just sent the young men of Michigan to become “manure” as he called it.



Women prepared bandages and clothing for soldiers. Newspapers were avidly read daily. Labor saving machinery was greatly needed and used, but often hard to find. Women and children had to work in the fields.



The war actually brought prosperity to Michigan farmers. To solve the labor problem immigrants were brought in. Farmers produced bigger crops of wheat, corn, oats, rye, hops, and corn sorghum. Heronius Engleman for whom Engleman street was named was a civil war veteran. Others are buried in St Clement Cemetery and Warren Union Cemetery. Those in The Bunert-Bidel Cemetery are lost forever. Because no one bothered to record their burials. Many at Warren Union Cemetery will suffer the same fate unless the Village Commission rights the wrong of allowing the vigilantes to get away with ripping our veterans memorials out. At home men, women and children worked long hours while their sons, husbands and fathers fought and died.



Planked road on right

“Between 1860 and 1870, rural population and acreage of improved farm land increased by about 45 percent-- thanks in part to passage of the Homestead Act in 1862.” (Kern 35) Wool production increased. Production of wheat which was Michigan's largest cash crop almost doubled. (Kern 35) Beginning around the time of the Civil War and continuing to the present, labor saving machinery and later office automation improved productivity. At first it was horse drawn machinery, then steam powered then gasoline and diesel powered machinery. That was followed by electric and electronic machinery. Industrialization and mechanization saved people from back breaking work then computer automation and robotization would years later put thousands of people out of work. Now Bots (programs with AI) may replace 60% of current jobs. **Michigan's boys in blue saw action in all the war's major battles. Seventy Michigianians were awarded the Medal of Honor,** the nation's highest honor for meritorious service. By 1865 the Civil War was over but not without sorrow for those who died for their beliefs. **The Battle of Gettysburg, for example resulted over 51,000 soldiers killed,** wounded, captured or missing. **Many laid there for days dying with no pain killers and no help.** Several Center Line and Warren residents served the cause of freedom. To find out more about Michigan in the Civil war visit Don Harvey's website which plays historical music while you learn.