

Thurber, Horace C.,

Was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., in 1813. He came to Michigan about 1832 and was employed by William Morris and his son Benjamin in their general store in Bloomfield township. He engaged in business in Pontiac in 1835 and for many years was the leading hardware merchant in the county, and in the matters of business no man living in Oakland county enjoyed a greater confidence with the people than Horace C. Thurber. His safe was the repository for money and valuables of his many friends.

Served as county treasurer 1840-42, also as a Grand Juror in 1840. President of the Board of Trustees of Pontiac in 1848-49. He also served as one of the commissioners of the Pontiac and Corunna Plank Road organized March 17, 1848. One of the organizers of the Genesee and Oakland R. R. Co., April 3, 1848.

In the early history of the Detroit and Pontiac Railway he was the principal owner, and it was reported at one time that he sold his interest for \$40,000. After retiring from business he was unfortunate in speculations and lost most of the money he made.

He died at the home of his son-in-law, Hon. Stuart C. Draper, of Saginaw, January 24, 1881. He left three daughters, Mrs. Stuart C. Draper of Saginaw, Mrs. Harry A. Conant of Monroe and Miss Lizzie Thurber of Saginaw, also one son Donald D. Thurber of Chicago. His remains were brought to Pontiac for burial.

Masonic record. Was charter member of Pontiac Lodge No. 21. There is no record to be found where he received his Degrees.